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*Borough of Dunstable*

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# Report

ON THE

# Health of Dunstable

FOR THE YEARS

1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945

BY

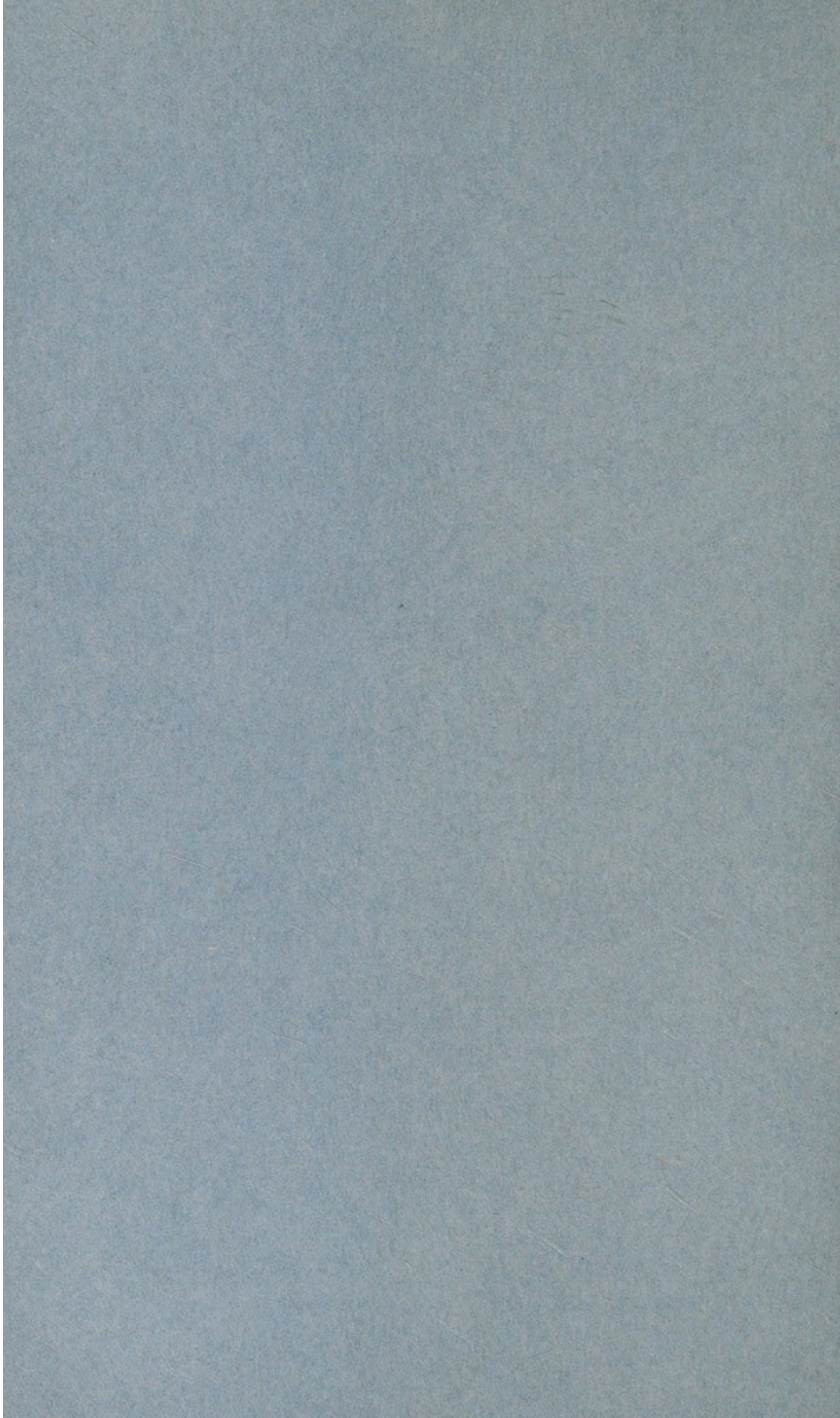
**H. A. A. PARGETER, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.**

*Medical Officer of Health.*

Together with the Report of

**A. BISHOP,**

*Senior Sanitary Inspector.*



# REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945.

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,  
DUNSTABLE.

October, 1946.

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

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting a combined Report for the years 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945.

The Borough was fairly free from notifiable infectious diseases during the years. In particular, only 17 cases of Diphtheria were notified during the whole period and there were no deaths from this cause. In fact there has been no death from Diphtheria since 1937. Immunisation Clinics have been maintained and at the end of 1945 it was estimated that 90 per cent. of school children had been protected against Diphtheria.

Scarlet Fever was more prevalent than in preceding years and there was one death from this disease in 1942.

Measles was particularly prevalent in 1942 and 1945, but there were no deaths from this disease in any of the four years.

Generally the health of the Borough was maintained at a high level during these four war years, which is satisfactory considering the amount of overcrowding.

In 1944 there occurred the highest number of births ever recorded in the Borough, namely, 320, the corresponding birth rate being 19.8. The death rate for the four years remained well below the birth rate; in 1943, in particular, it was only 9.5 per 1,000 of population.

For easy reference there is included a table of comparative statistics for the last five years.

In conclusion, I wish to express my thanks to the Town Clerk and the Sanitary Inspectors for their valuable co-operation and to acknowledge the kindnesses that have always been shown by the Public Health Committee to the Health Department of the Borough.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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.
- (b) *Senior Sanitary Inspector.*  
A. Bishop, 1939, 1940. Seconded to Full Time A.R.P. from 1st July, 1940 to 30th September, 1945.
- (c) *Additional Sanitary Inspector.*  
H. Stew. Appointed 1st February, 1941. Acting Senior Sanitary Inspector from 1st July, 1941 to 30th September, 1945.
- (d) *Additional Sanitary Inspector.*  
L. G. Howard. Appointed 1st April, 1941. Resigned June 1945.
- (e) *Shorthand-Typist-Clerk.*  
I. E. Ormsby. Appointed 22nd December, 1941.
- (f) *Pupil Clerk.*  
D. H. Laing. 1939, 1940. Joined H.M. Forces 11th December, 1941.

### **SECTION A—**

### **STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.**

#### **1. Vital Statistics.**

Area of Borough, 2,028 acres.

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Population as estimated by Registrar-General ...	17,130	16,450	16,160	15,680
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books	4,513	4,513	4,513	4,513
Rateable Value as at 31st March ... ..	£79,278	£81,137	£81,813	£81,877
Sum produced by a penny rate taken at 31st March	£309	£317	£326	£327
Number of new houses erected ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE  
YEARS 1942, 1943, 1944 AND 1945.

The following tables give extracts from the Vital Statistics of the years 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945, as furnished by the Registrar-General.

1942.	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births ...	274	127	147	} Birth rate per 1,000 of population, 16.0.
Legitimate	260	121	139	
Illegitimate	14	6	8	
Still Births ...	10	4	6	} Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births, 35.2.
Legitimate	9	3	6	
Illegitimate	1	1	0	
Deaths ...	169	88	81	} Death Rate per 1,000 of population, 9.9.

There were no deaths from diseases or accidents of pregnancy and childbirth.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

Total ...	15	Rate per 1,000 live births ...	55.0
Legitimate	15	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	58.0
Illegitimate	0	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0.0
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) ...	...	...	30

1943.	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births ...	275	140	135	} Birth rate per 1,000 of population, 16.7.
Legitimate	266	137	129	
Illegitimate	9	3	6	
Still Births ...	3	2	1	} Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births, 10.9.
Legitimate	3	2	1	
Illegitimate	0	0	0	
Deaths ...	156	74	82	} Death rate per 1,000 of population, 9.5.

There was one death from maternal causes.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

Total ...	12	Rate per 1,000 live births ...	44.0
Legitimate	11	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	41.0
Illegitimate	1	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	111.0
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) ...	...	...	23

1944.	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births ...	320	178	142	} Birth rate per 1,000 of population, 19·8.
Legitimate	301	165	136	
Illegitimate	19	13	6	
Still Births ...	8	5	3	} Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births, 24·0.
Legitimate	5	2	3	
Illegitimate	3	3	0	
Deaths ...	185	94	91	} Death rate per 1,000 of population, 11·4.

There was one death from diseases or accidents of pregnancy and childbirth.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

Total ...	12	Rate per 1,000 live births ...	36·0
Legitimate	11	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	37·0
Illegitimate	1	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	5·26
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...			0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...			0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...			0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...			28

1945.	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births ...	294	141	153	} Birth rate per 1,000 of population, 18·7.
Legitimate	263	126	137	
Illegitimate	31	15	16	
Still Births ...	13	8	5	} Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births, 42·3.
Legitimate	12	7	5	
Illegitimate	1	1	0	
Deaths ...	164	80	84	} Death rate per 1,000 of population, 10·5.

There were no deaths from diseases or accidents of pregnancy and childbirth.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age :—

Total ...	9	Rate per 1,000 live births ...	30·1
Legitimate	8	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	30·4
Illegitimate	1	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	32·3
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...			0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...			0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...			0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...			31

## 2. Population.

The population figures as supplied by the Registrar-General since 1933, when the Borough was extended to its present area, are as follows :—

1933 (mid-year)	...	...	...	...	10,293
1934	..	...	...	...	10,520
1935	..	...	...	...	11,330
1936	..	...	...	...	12,800
1937	..	...	...	...	13,450
1938	..	...	...	...	13,760
1939	..	...	...	...	14,720
1940	..	...	...	...	15,730
1941	..	...	...	...	18,040
1942	..	...	...	...	17,130
1943	..	...	...	...	16,450
1944	..	...	...	...	16,160
1945	..	...	...	...	15,680

### CHILD POPULATION.

The following are the approximate estimated number of children in the Borough at :—

			<i>Under 5 years.</i>	<i>Between 5 &amp; 15 years.</i>
December, 1942	...	...	1,407	2,600
.. 1943	...	...	1,331	2,541
.. 1944	...	...	1,242	2,513
.. 1945	...	...	1,290	2,380

The natural increase in the population or difference between the birth and death rates are as follows :—

1942	...	...	...	...	6.1
1943	...	...	...	...	7.2
1944	...	...	...	...	8.4
1945	...	...	...	...	8.2

It is interesting to compare the population figures supplied by the Registrar-General with locally-estimated figures as determined by the ration books issued from the Food Office :—

October, 1939	...	16,817	ration books were issued.
.. 1940	...	20,131	ration books were estimated to be in local use.
.. 1941	...	18,789	do.
.. 1942	...	17,330	do.
.. 1943	...	16,069	do.
.. 1944	...	16,349	do.
.. 1945	...	16,831	do.



## 3 &amp; 4. Birth and Death Rates.

Year.	Population.		Births.	Birth Rate.	Deaths.	Crude Death Rate.	Death rate for England and Wales.
	Reg. Gen's Estimate.	Local Estimate.					
1939	14,720	16,817	231	17	155	10.5	—
1940	15,730	20,131	244	16	220	13.9	—
1941	18,040	18,789	274	15	181	10.0	—
1942	17,130	17,330	274	16	169	9.9	11.6
1943	16,450	16,069	266	16	156	9.5	12.1
1944	16,160	16,349	320	20	185	11.4	11.6
1945	15,680	16,831	294	19	164	10.5	11.4

## 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 years 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945 :—

Causes of Death.	1942.		1943.		1944.		1945.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
All Causes ... ..	88	81	74	82	94	91	80	84
1. Typhoid Fever, etc. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
2. Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Influenza ... ..	—	—	2	4	—	—	2	—
7. Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	2	5	3	3	3	1	4
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	1
11. Syphilis ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
12. General Paralysis of Insane ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Cancer ... ..	17	13	11	12	13	15	16	15
14. Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage ... ..	11	13	8	6	8	10	5	12
16. Heart Disease ... ..	19	17	13	13	20	24	12	18
17. Other diseases of circulatory system	6	2	1	3	3	2	4	3
18. Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
19. Bronchitis ... ..	2	5	3	7	4	1	5	5
20. Pneumonia ... ..	3	1	6	4	4	6	4	1
21. Other respiratory diseases ... ..	1	3	2	1	3	3	3	—
22. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ... ..	1	1	2	1	1	—	3	1
23. Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ... ..	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
24. Appendicitis ... ..	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—
25. Other digestive diseases ... ..	1	1	—	3	—	6	4	4
26. Nephritis ... ..	—	2	2	3	3	2	1	2
27. Puerperal and post-abort. sepsis ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
28. Other maternal causes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
29. Premature birth ... ..	2	—	3	2	2	—	1	3
30. Congenital mal., birth injuries, infant. dis. ... ..	2	3	2	—	7	—	—	—
31. Suicide ... ..	2	1	—	—	1	—	2	1
32. Road traffic accidents ... ..	1	2	—	4	1	1	1	—
33. Other violent causes ... ..	1	—	3	2	1	—	—	1
34. All other causes ... ..	12	14	8	12	14	15	13	10

## 6. Infant Mortality.

The following tables show 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-	
1942.										
Prematurity ... ..	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Bronchitis, etc. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Congenital deformities ... ..	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	3
Gastro-enteritis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Infantile eczema ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Osteomyelitis ... ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral haemorrhage ... ..	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS ... ..	6	—	1	1	8	1	4	1	1	15
1943.										
Prematurity and Debility from birth ... ..	4	—	—	1	5	1	—	—	—	6
Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Congenital deformities ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Gastro-enteritis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
TOTALS ... ..	5	—	—	1	6	6	—	—	—	12
1944.										
Prematurity and Debility from birth ... ..	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Congenital deformities ... ..	2	1	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	5
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Icterus neonatorum ... ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Generalised oedema ... ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ... ..	4	3	1	—	8	2	1	1	—	12
1945.										
Prematurity and Debility from birth ... ..	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Congenital deformities ... ..	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Cerebral haemorrhage ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Lobar pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
TOTALS ... ..	7	1	—	—	8	—	—	1	—	9

### INFANT MORTALITY.

	<i>Total Live Births.</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality Rate—Dunstable.</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality Rate—England and Wales.</i>
1935 ... ..	173	46	57
1936 ... ..	199	55	59
1937 ... ..	219	32	58
1938 ... ..	243	46	53
1939 ... ..	231	25	50
1940 ... ..	244	86	55
1941 ... ..	274	55	59
1942 ... ..	274	55	49
1943 ... ..	275	44	49
1944 ... ..	320	36	46
1945 ... ..	294	30	46

## 7. Maternal Mortality.

There were no maternal deaths in 1942 or 1945, but there was one in 1943 and one in 1944.

## COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1941—1945.

Year.	Live Births.		Still-Births.		Deaths.		Infant Deaths.				Maternal Deaths.			
	No.	Rate per 1,000 estimated population.	No.	Rate per 1,000 total births.	No.	Rate per 1,000 estimated population.	Under 4 weeks.	4 weeks to 12 months.	Total.	Rate per 1,000 live births.	Sepsis	Other	Total	Rate per 1,000 total births.
1941	274	15.2	13	45.3	181	10.0	11	4	15	55	—	—	—	—
1942	274	16.0	10	35.2	169	9.9	8	7	15	55	—	—	—	—
1943	275	16.7	3	10.9	156	9.5	6	6	12	44	1	—	1	3.6
1944	320	19.8	8	24.0	185	11.4	8	4	12	36	—	1	1	3.1
1945	294	18.7	13	42.3	164	10.5	8	1	9	30	—	—	—	—

## 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 years 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945, together with the number admitted to hospital, and the deaths from these diseases :—

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.				Cases Admitted to Hospital.				Total Deaths Registered.			
	1942	1943	1944	1945	1942	1943	1944	1945	1942	1943	1944	1945
Diphtheria ... ..	6	9	2	—	6	9	2	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	59	65	40	32	57	62	37	32	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	2	0	2	0	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	0	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	10	5
Erysipelas ... ..	3	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	138	24	16	245	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	6	2	29	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever...	2	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Abortus Fever ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Infective Hepatitis ...	—	5	8	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—

\* Notifiable from November, 1943.

FORM E.—Notifications of infectious and contagious diseases have been regularly received from the Elementary Schools during the four years, the numbers being as follows :—

1942 ... ..	18 forms.
1943 ... ..	24 „
1944 ... ..	22 „
1945 ... ..	45 „

The cases notified included non-notifiable infectious diseases, such as Chicken Pox, Mumps, etc., and contagious complaints such as Scabies, Ringworm, Impetigo, etc.

The following tables give an analysis of the more important cases of Infectious Diseases notified, according to age :—

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Un- der 1 year.</i>	<i>1 to 2</i>	<i>2 to 3</i>	<i>3 to 4</i>	<i>4 to 5</i>	<i>5 to 10</i>	<i>10 to 15</i>	<i>15 to 20</i>	<i>20 to 35</i>	<i>35 to 45</i>	<i>45 to 65</i>	<i>Over 65</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1942.													
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	6
Scarlet Fever	1	—	5	4	2	22	19	2	1	2	1	—	59
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
1943.													
Diphtheria ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	5	—	—	9
Scarlet Fever	—	1	3	5	3	30	10	3	8	2	—	—	65
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Infective Hepatitis...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	5
1944.													
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Scarlet Fever	—	—	2	4	2	25	2	2	1	1	1	—	40
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Infective Hepatitis...	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	1	3	2	1	—	14
1945.													
Scarlet Fever	—	1	1	2	1	17	5	5	—	—	—	—	32
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Infective Hepatitis...	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	4	3	—	—	—	14

There also occurred :—

in 1942—2 cases of Puerperal Fever.

in 1943—1 case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

in 1944—2 cases of Puerperal Fever.

in 1945—1 case of Acute Poliomyelitis.

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

(c) *Scarlet Fever*.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>No. of Cases.</i>	<i>Case-rate per 1,000.</i>	<i>Case-rate for England and Wales.</i>
1942... ..	59	3.45	2.19
1943... ..	65	3.95	3.01
1944... ..	40	2.47	2.40
1945... ..	32	2.04	1.89

The following table shows the incidence for the last ten years:—

1936	...	7	1941	...	38
1937	...	10	1942	...	59
1938	...	32	1943	...	65
1939	...	18	1944	...	40
1940	...	15	1945	...	32

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

1936	...	36	1941	...	9
1937	...	23	1942	...	6
1938	...	8	1943	...	9
1939	...	8	1944	...	2
1940	...	9	1945	...	0

During 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945, the following carriers of the disease were discovered:—

1942	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
1943	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
1944	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

There have been no deaths from the disease since the year 1937.

*Case-rate for  
England and Wales.*

The case-rate for 1942 was	0.35	per 1,000	1.05
„ „ 1943 „	0.54	„ 1,000	0.88
„ „ 1944 „	0.12	„ 1,000	0.02
„ „ 1945 „	0.00	„ 1,000	0.46

*Diphtheria Prophylaxis*.—The following table shows the number of children who completed immunisation treatment during the three years:—

	<i>Under Between 5 and 15</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>5 years.</i>	<i>years.</i>	
1942	...	325	677
1943	...	303	413
1944	...	172	335
1945	...	293	385



*Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.*—The following cases were notified :—

1942	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
1943	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
1944	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

*Ophthalmia Neonatorum.*—One case was notified in 1943 but none in 1942, 1944 or 1945.

*Other Infectious Diseases.*—There were two cases of Cerebro-spinal Fever in 1942, one in 1943 and one in 1944, which were removed to hospital.

There were three cases of Erysipelas in 1942, none in 1943, one in 1944, and two in 1945.

One case of Abortus Fever occurred in 1942 and one case of Typhoid in 1943, both of which were removed to hospital.

There were two cases of Dysentery in 1944 which were removed to hospital.

A case of Polio-myelitis occurred in 1945 which was removed to hospital.

## 2. Cancer.

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

Year	Males	Females	Total	Rate	England &
				per	Wales
				1,000	Rate per 1,000
1936	13	8	21	1.09	1.63
1937	9	16	25	1.89	1.63
1938	6	8	14	1.02	1.66
1939	11	12	23	1.56	—
1940	14	17	31	1.97	—
1941	10	14	24	1.33	—
1942	17	13	30	1.75	—
1943	11	12	23	1.4	—
1944	13	15	28	1.73	—
1945	16	15	31	1.97	—



## 3. Tuberculosis.

New cases and mortality during 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945 :—

Year.	Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1942	0- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1- ...	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
	5- ...	1	—	2	—	—	1	1	—
	10- ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15- ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	20- ...	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
	25- ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	35- ...	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
	45- ...	1	2	1	—	2	—	—	1
	55- ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & up ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	TOTALS ...	10	8	6	2	3	2	1	1
1943	0- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1- ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
	5- ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	10- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15- ...	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
	20- ...	3	2	3	—	1	—	—	—
	25- ...	—	3	—	1	—	1	—	—
	35- ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
	45- ...	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
	55- ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & up ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	
	TOTALS ...	6	8	5	3	5	3	—	—
1944	0- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1- ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
	5- ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
	10- ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
	15- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	20- ...	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
	25- ...	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
	35- ...	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
	45- ...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
	55- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & up ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	TOTALS ...	4	6	1	4	3	3	—	—
1945	0- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1- ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	5- ...	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	1
	10- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15- ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
	20- ...	3	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
	25- ...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
	35- ...	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
	45- ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	55- ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 & up ...	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	
	TOTALS ...	9	10	3	4	1	4	—	1

The following table shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of each of the years 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945 :—

Year.		Males.	Females.	Total.
1942	Pulmonary ... ..	69	55	124
	Non-pulmonary ... ..	27	21	48
	TOTALS ... ..	96	76	172
1943	Pulmonary ... ..	68	55	123
	Non-pulmonary ... ..	32	24	56
	TOTALS ... ..	100	79	179
1944	Pulmonary ... ..	69	58	127
	Non-pulmonary ... ..	32	28	60
	TOTALS ... ..	101	86	187
1945	Pulmonary ... ..	76	61	137
	Non-pulmonary ... ..	34	32	66
	TOTALS ... ..	110	93	203

*Death Rates per 1,000 from Tuberculosis :—*

	Pulmonary.	Non-pulmonary.
1942 ... ..	0.29	0.12
1943 ... ..	0.48	—
1944 ... ..	0.37	—
1945 ... ..	0.32	0.06

BOROUGH OF DUNSTABLE.

REPORT

OF THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE

YEARS 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,  
DUNSTABLE.

14th May, 1946.

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

MR. MAYOR, MRS. PARGETER AND GENTLEMEN,

In submitting a combined Report for the years 1942, 1943, 1944 and 1945, I do so under somewhat peculiar circumstances in that, except for the period October to December, 1945, I was fully seconded to the Beds. County Council for A.R.P. duties in this area and was not in office as Senior Sanitary Inspector.

The Report covers a period when Mr. H. Stew held office as Acting Senior Sanitary Inspector, and the extent to which the services were conducted and carried out under his direction during the difficult war years merits the commendation of the Corporation.

Mr. L. G. Howard, who held the post of Additional Sanitary Inspector, left the service of the Corporation in June, 1945, on his appointment to a similar post under the Eastbourne County Borough Council. During the time he was at Dunstable he gave exceedingly good service.

The difficulties experienced during the war period of presenting Reports annually should not arise in future.

Although officially detached from the Department during the war years, I have remained in close contact with all members of the staff, to whom I express my sincere thanks for the help and guidance which they have been able to extend to me.

Yours obediently,

A. BISHOP,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector.*

## SECTION C—

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### 1. (i) **Water Supply.**

The water supply of the Borough is controlled and undertaken by the Dunstable Gas and Water Company and, although in previous years the whole of the supply has been from deep wells bored in the chalk within the Borough, conditions have now changed to the extent that a constant supply of additional water is being obtained by the Company from the Luton Water Company's Undertaking and, during the latter part of 1944 and early 1945, a supply was also obtained from the AC-Sphinx greensand supply.

I am indebted to the Resident Manager of the Company for the following valuable and interesting information as to supplies generally, having particular reference to the last four years now under review.

##### (a) *Water Shortages.*

Owing to exceptionally low ground water level and complete absence of usual Spring rise in levels in 1944, water available for supply in Dunstable was very restricted. Notices forbidding the use of water for watering gardens and washing cars were posted in 1943 also, but apart from this, all demands were met from the Company's own resources.

##### (b) *New Supplies.*

###### 1. *Luton Supply.*

Water was first drawn from the Luton Water Company on November 1st, 1943, but only through a low pressure connection between Luton and Dunstable distributing mains as the Luton Water Company was, at that time, not too certain of its own supply.

When a new pumping plant was installed at Luton and the Luton Water Company was able to give a larger supply, an Agreement was signed whereby the Dunstable Company agreed to take an average of 2·1 million gallons per week as soon as the necessary connections could be completed and since 1st April, 1945, approximately that quantity has been taken except at times of breakdown or repair at Luton.

This Agreement is to run for three years and is then subject to six months notice on either side.

## 2. *AC-Sphinx Supply.*

Water was first drawn from the AC-Sphinx greensand supply on July 20th, 1944, and was discontinued on February 5th, 1945. Earlier connection was not possible owing to mechanical difficulties with the AC-Sphinx wells. It is interesting to note that these wells are now both out of commission and all water to the extent of about 0·5 million gallons per week is being supplied by the Water Company.

## 3. *General.*

The three greensand wells at the Vauxhall Works also failed in September, 1944, for approximately eight months and have now again failed. The Water Company are supplying about 0·5 million gallons per week in this case.

In view of repeated failures in the case of greensand wells in this district the Dunstable Gas and Water Company are not continuing with proposals to put down this type of well until all other possible sources have been thoroughly examined.

## (c) *New Works.*

The following new works in connection with wells and mains have been carried out by the Company :—

### (a) *Wells.*

1942. 410 yards 6 ft. × 4 ft. 6 ins. adits and new pilot well, 170 ft. deep—additional water estimated at 10–15,000 gallons per hour.

1944. 350 yards 6 ft. × 4 ft. 6 ins. adit at 220 ft. depth, and lowering of one well by 50 ft. and 30 ft. of adit by 6 ft. were carried out July, 1944, to January, 1945. Extra yield of water was not however very considerable—actual quantity difficult to calculate owing to continuously changing ground levels during work and since.

(b) *Water Mains.*

*Runley Wood—Luton to Skimpot Road and Luton Road.*

3,422 yards 8" to 6" main to enable water to be taken from Luton Water Company, completed in March, 1945.

*Half Moon Lane Housing Estate.*

535 yards 4"—3" and 2" Main to Supply Estate. Completed 30th October, 1945.

*Beacon Avenue.*

139 yards 3" main to supply new houses. Completed 20th November, 1945.

(d) *Risks of Contamination.*

There is little risk of contamination of water by lead having regard to the hardness of the water apart from which lead is not used extensively in the area.

Every man, whether employed by the Company or by Contractors, is medically examined prior to being allowed to carry out any work in the wells where danger of contamination or infection might arise.

(e) *Number of Dwelling Houses Supplied.*

The whole of the dwelling houses within the Borough have a separate pipe supply of water and there are no public stand-pipes.

**Results of the Examination of Water Samples.**

During the period under review twenty-eight samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and a further eighteen samples were submitted for both chemical and bacteriological examination by the Company.

In addition, two samples were submitted by the Public Health Department, the results of which are given at the end of the Gas and Water Company's samples.

*Bacteriological Samples.*

A report—"this is a very satisfactory sample. It is clear and bright in appearance and of the highest standard of bacterial purity, indicative of a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes"—was received in respect of the undermentioned twenty-four samples.

1942.

1/42.	8- 1-42.	Showrooms, High Street North, Dunstable.
2/42.	15- 2-42.	71, Suncote Avenue, Dunstable.
3/42.	27- 2-42.	Isolation Hospital, Dunstable.
8/42.	14- 7-42.	Gas Showrooms, Dunstable.
9/42.	11- 8-42.	259, Poynter's Road, Dunstable.
15/42.	18-12-42.	Isolation Hospital, Dunstable.

1943.

- 6/43. 25-10-43. Isolation Hospital, Dunstable.  
7/43. 8-11-43. 21, Poynter's Road, Dunstable (Luton Water Co. Supply).

1944.

- 4/44. 8- 5-44. Gas Works Yard, Dunstable.  
6/44. 6- 6-44. Boilerhouse Tap, Gas Works, Dunstable.  
7/44. 19- 6-44. Boilerhouse Tap, Gas Works, Dunstable.  
8/44. 27- 6-44. Rising Main, No. 3 Well, Waterworks, Dunstable.  
10/44. 11- 7-44. Boilerhouse Tap, Gas Works, Dunstable.  
15/44. 15- 8-44. 11, Suncote Avenue, Dunstable.  
20/44. 11- 9-44. Yard Tap, Gas Works, Dunstable.  
25/44. 24-10-44. 75, Tring Road, Dunstable.  
26/44. 24-10-44. 20, Frenches Gate, Dunstable.

1945.

- 1/45. 13- 2-45. Boilerhouse Tap, Gas Works, Dunstable.  
3/45. 18- 4-45. 1, Suncote Avenue, Dunstable.  
5/45. 25- 7-45. 32, Poynter's Road, Dunstable (Luton Water Co. Supply).  
11/45. 20- 8-45. Pump delivery to Chlorine house at Works, Dunstable.  
12/45. 20- 8-45. 52, Frenches Gate, Dunstable.  
13/45. 20- 8-45. 5, Hadrian Avenue, Dunstable.  
19/45. 30-10-45. Kitchen Tap, Showrooms, High Street North, Dunstable.

The following four samples varied to the extent that the results are given separately :—

1944.

- 18/44. 29-8-44. GAS SHOWROOMS, HIGH STREET NORTH, DUNSTABLE.

“ The bacterial purity of this sample is very satisfactory and consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

“ It was not however quite clear and bright, having faint opalescence and slight deposit.”

- 19/44. 11-9-44. SUNCOTE AVENUE, DUNSTABLE.

“ This sample is not quite clear and bright, containing a minute deposit but it is not unduly turbid and is of the highest standard of bacterial purity, consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

- 24/44. 10-10-44. 5, LONDON ROAD, DUNSTABLE.

“ This sample is not quite clear and bright, having faint opalescence and slight deposit but it is not unduly turbid

1944.

and is of the highest standard of bacterial purity. It is therefore considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

27/44. 7-11-44. GAS SHOWROOMS, HIGH STREET NORTH, DUNSTABLE.

"This sample is not quite clear and bright, containing a trace of chalk in suspension but is of very satisfactory bacterial purity, consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

*Chemical and Bacteriological Samples.*

The combined results of the chemical and bacteriological samples are given below. This is in accord with the request contained in Ministry of Health Circular 28/46 (England).

1942. 4 & 5/42. 8-4-42. 17, HADRIAN AVENUE, DUNSTABLE.

"This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is hard in character although not to an abnormal or excessive degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, is of satisfactory organic quality and the highest standard of bacterial purity. These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

14/42. 27/11/42. GAS WORKS TAP, DUNSTABLE.

"This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. It showed a distinct residual free chlorine reaction."

"The water is hard in character although not to an excessive or abnormal degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution and is of a high standard of organic purity. These results are consistent with a wholesome water, suitable for public supply purposes."

1943. 12-1-43. HIGH PRESSURE TOWN SUPPLY, LOWER WORKS TAP, No. 3 4 AND 5, WELL PUMP DELIVERY WATER AFTER CHLORINATION AND STORAGE.

"This sample is reasonably clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is hard in character although not to an abnormal degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, is of good organic quality and the highest standard of bacterial purity. It is therefore considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for the purposes of public supply."



1943.

3/43. 10-5-43. NOS. 3, 4 AND 5 RISING MAIN AT WATERWORKS,  
DUNSTABLE.

“ This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and contains no excess of free carbonic acid. The water is hard in character, although not to an abnormal or excessive degree, contains no excess of salinity, no iron or other metals, and is of a very satisfactory organic purity. These results are normal, and abnormal corrosive action on metals would not be anticipated by water of this character.”

4/43. 10-5-43. NOS. 3, 4 AND 5 WELLS AFTER CHLORINATION,  
TOWER OUTLET, WATERWORKS.

“ This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The content of free carbonic acid is not unduly high, the salinity not excessive, and the organic purity is very satisfactory. It is a hard water and the greater part of the hardness is temporary, *i.e.*, due to calcium bicarbonate. It differs from the sample collected from the wells in containing free chlorine and the amount of free chlorine present in the water when sampled would be higher than that found when received at the laboratory three days later. The presence of free chlorine in this water is probably the determining factor in the causation of corrosion.”

5/43. 10-5-43. NOS. 1 AND 2 WELLS AFTER CHLORINATION.

“ This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is hard in character, although not to an abnormal degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution and is of the highest standard of organic purity. From the standpoint of chemical analysis, the water is considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes. The presence of free chlorine is probably the determining factor in the causation of corrosion.”

8/43. 10-12-43. LABORATORY TAP, GAS WORKS, DUNSTABLE.

“ This sample is reasonably clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals with the exception of an insignificant trace of iron. The water is hard in character although not to an abnormal degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution and is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity. These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for the purpose of a public supply.”

1944. 1/44. 26-1-44. LABORATORY TAP AC-SPHINX GREENSAND WELL WATER AFTER BEING LIME TREATED FOR IRON REMOVAL, CALGON AND CHLORINATED.

“ This sample is clear and bright in appearance, faintly alkaline in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is fairly soft in character, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, is of good organic quality and the highest standard of bacterial purity.”

“ These results are very satisfactory and consistent with an efficiently treated water, pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

5/44. 23-5-44. GARAGE TAP, ISOLATION HOSPITAL, DUNSTABLE.

“ This sample is reasonably clear and bright and of normal colour. The water is neutral in reaction, hard in character although not to an excessive or abnormal degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution and is of a very satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.”

“ It is therefore considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

13/44. 31-7-44. POOL, AC-SPHINX WORKS, DUNSTABLE.

“ This sample is reasonably clear and bright in appearance, faintly alkaline in reaction, and free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water has moderate hardness, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, and is of very satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.”

“ These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

14/44. 31-7-44. INFLOW TOP TANK, AC-SPHINX WORKS, DUNSTABLE.

“ This is a very satisfactory sample. It is clear and bright in appearance and of the highest standard of bacterial purity, indicative of a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

16/44. 15-8-44. GARAGE TAP, ISOLATION HOSPITAL, DUNSTABLE.

“ This sample is not quite clear and bright, containing a minute trace of chalk in suspension. The water is neutral in reaction, hard in character although not to an abnormal degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution and is of a very satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.”

“ No metals were found apart from an insignificant trace of iron.”

“ These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.”

1944. 21/44. 25-9-44. NO. 1 WELL, RISING MAIN AT WORKS.

" This sample contains a trace of suspended matter but is not unduly turbid. The water is neutral in reaction, hard in character although not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution, and is of very satisfactory organic and bacterial purity."

" These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for the purpose of a public supply."

26/44. 7-11-44. DRINKING TAP, STAFF LAVATORY, AC-SPHINX WORKS, DUNSTABLE.

" This sample is clear and bright in appearance, faintly alkaline in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water has moderate hardness, contains no excess of saline or mineral matter in solution and is of excellent organic and bacterial purity."

" These results are very satisfactory and consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

1945. 2/45. 27-2-45. GAS SHOWROOM TAP, HIGH STREET NORTH, DUNSTABLE.

" This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is hard in character but not to an abnormal degree and contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity."

" These results are normal, very satisfactory and consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

4/45. 18-2-45. GAS SHOWROOM TAP, HIGH STREET NORTH, DUNSTABLE.

" This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is hard in character but not to an abnormal degree, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity."

" These results are normal and consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

10/45. 25-7-45. ISOLATION HOSPITAL, DUNSTABLE.

" This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and is of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity."

" These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

1945.

18/45. 30-10-45. PUMP DELIVERY, NO. 1 WELL, AT WATERWORKS.

“ This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from iron and other metals. The water is hard in character but not unduly so, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and is of very satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.”

“ These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.”

**Samples taken by Public Health Department.**

25-7-45. PUBLIC SUPPLY, EVELYN ROAD SCHOOL CANTEEN.

“ The combined result indicates that the water is satisfactory for drinking purposes.”

25-7-45. PUBLIC SUPPLY, 137, CHILTERN ROAD.

“ The combined result indicates that the water is satisfactory for drinking purposes.”

**(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.**

*(a) Sewage Disposal.*

The sewage from the Borough is drained to the Corporation Sewage Farm at Houghton Regis and is there treated together with the sewage of Houghton Regis, which is situated in the area of the Luton Rural District Council, by means of filtration and irrigation, the effluent ultimately finding its way into the Ousel Brook, a tributary of the River Ouse.

The Farm itself covers 45 acres and is cultivated by the Corporation. There are six beds.

In my previous Reports I have called attention to the fact that the Works were in rather a bad state of repair, overloaded and have outlived their usefulness. As a result great difficulty is now being experienced in treating the sewage in a satisfactory manner and to produce an effluent satisfactory for discharge into the brook.

To overcome this difficulty the Corporation have before them at the moment a Scheme which provides for an entirely new Works.

*(b) New Sewers.*

Very little has, of course, been done during the war period in connection with new Sewer works but during 1944 a short length of sewer was laid in Ridgeway Drive in order to pick up

the drainage from three houses in that locality, which were at that time drained to cesspools which were the cause of considerable nuisance and cost in connection with emptying.

## 2. Rivers and Streams.

There are no rivers or streams in the area.

## 3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

War-time conditions have made it impossible to maintain anything like the normal standard of inspection. There are comparatively few houses without water closet accommodation and very few cases in which more than one family share a water closet. In most cases this occurs in property which is now almost ripe for demolition under the Housing Acts.

### (ii) Public Cleansing.

#### (a) *Refuse Collection and Disposal.*

Although working under wartime difficulties with the consequent transport and labour troubles and not only additional refuse to be collected, but the greater need for sorting out and collecting of salvagable materials, I think it may be claimed that the public have been given a reasonably good service throughout the whole of the war period.

While it was necessary for some years to institute a system of alternate collections of refuse and salvage, the practice has now been discontinued and the normal collection of refuse and salvage together has been re-introduced. Some little time must, however, elapse before conditions in respect of vehicles, labour, etc., return to normal. In the meantime, every endeavour is being made to improve the service and bring it back to the pre-war standard.

The Corporation have now adopted the policy of supplying refuse receptacles from bulk supplies, to owners or occupiers at cost price.

For a number of years refuse has been disposed of by tipping on the site of an old chalk pit within the Borough. It will, however, soon be necessary to consider a fresh site as the present one cannot be used advantageously for very much longer.

#### (b) *Salvage.*

Considerable time and labour have been spent during the years under review in connection with salvage of materials required for the War Effort, and it is worthy of note that a prize of fifty pounds was awarded to the Borough for their effort in the 1942 National Waste Paper Competition.

*Book Drive.*

In the special Salvage Drive for books in 1943 a total of 42,581 was collected. These were sorted out by a panel of voluntary workers and of the total number 13,925 were sent to the Forces; 1,146 were handed to the County Librarian for further expert sorting to ascertain whether any were of historic or other value; the remaining 27,510 were disposed of as salvage.

The following table shows the amount and value of materials which have been salvaged during each year:—

<i>Material.</i>	<i>Year 1942.</i>			<i>Year 1943.</i>			<i>Year 1944.</i>			<i>Year 1945.</i>		
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs. lbs.</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs. lbs.</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs. lbs.</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs. lbs.</i>
Paper ... ..	211	3	- 12	127	4	1 8	122	7	3 -	92	3	3 -
Heavy Iron ... ..	8	12	1 -	7	3	1 -	3	3	3 -	1	8	- -
Light Iron ... ..	1	18	3 -	14	9	- -	-	-	- -	1	3	2 -
Tins... ..	41	17	2 -	142	11	2 -	51	19	3 -	1	16	- -
Rags ... ..	8	17	- 27	7	16	3 1	11	-	2 2	6	-	2 14
Bones ... ..	13	11	3 -	18	2	- 18	13	9	- 6	5	14	1 6
Brass-Aluminium												
Lead ... ..	-	11	- 10	-	16	- -	-	8	3 16	-	-	- -
Bottles and Jars ...	20	6	2 -	23	3	2 -	19	5	- -	1	15	- -
Glass Cullett ...	-	-	- -	8	15	3 -	7	2	2 -	-	-	- -
Rubber ... ..	8	16	1 -	4	14	3 -	-	-	- -	-	-	- -
Kitchen Waste (Collected by Borough Surveyor's Dept.)	270	8	3 -	265	7	2 -	267	6	3 -	241	5	1 -
Value ... ..	£2,092 11 10			£1,765 8 4			£1,691 9 0			£1,196 8 9		

*(c) Cleansing of Cesspools.*

In 1944 a short length of sewer was laid in Ridgeway Drive which made it possible to connect up the drainage of two houses in Brandreth Avenue and from 124, Luton Road. These cesspools had been the cause of a good deal of trouble for some time.

As a result of a drainage obstruction it was discovered that premises at 45, Princes Street had never been connected to the sewer as was the case with all other houses in the locality and was still drained to a cesspool. This has now been put in order, the drains connected to the sewer and the cesspool filled up.

There are still about twenty houses in the Borough which are drained to cesspools. It is possible that a few of them will be disposed of in the near future as the result of development and the provision of sewers in the locality. The majority of them are, however, in the Tring Road Area and development on a fairly large scale will have to take place before anything can be done to abolish cesspools in this area.

*(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.*

War conditions have made it impossible to do anything like the normal amount of inspection and, consequently apart from the difficulties of labour and materials, has meant a considerable reduction in the amount of work done.

The following schedules give details of the number of inspections made together with the results of Notices served :—

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Inspection of premises where nuisances were found ...	376	247	460	514
Visits to property under notice or work in progress ...	501	290	583	422
Inspection of offensive trade premises— <i>Fish Friers</i> ...	4	5	7	6
Inspections of Food Premises ...	129	157	187	91
Inspection of Schools ...	9	4	1	7
Inspection of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops ...	86	51	94	40
Inspections of Factories, including Bakehouses ...	29	38	48	19
Inspections of Tents, Vans and Sheds ...	34	48	71	63
Inspections of Cafes' and Restaurants' Kitchens... ..	4	15	13	5
Public Air Raid Shelters ...	63	39	24	—
Evacuee Billets and Requisitioned Houses ...	43	12	12	3
Premises inspected where notifiable disease occurred ...	68	76	48	30

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Number of Statutory Notices served ... ..	1	1	Nil.	Nil.
Number of Informal and Verbal Notices given ... ..	161	134	328	276

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Housing (Applications for New Accommodation) ...	—	—	—	282
Preliminary Housing Inspections ... ..	—	24	54	62

#### SCHEDULE OF WORK DONE.

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
<b>(a) STRUCTURAL DEFECTS.</b>				
Roofs repaired and made weatherproof ... ..	16	15	19	18
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed ... ..	9	1	3	15
Chimneys repointed, etc., and pots renewed ... ..	1	5	1	7
R.W. Pipes refixed, repaired or renewed ... ..	9	6	6	10
Window and frames repaired or renewed ... ..	4	5	7	7
Doors and frames repaired or renewed ... ..	1	10	1	4
Main walls repointed or cement rendered ... ..	23	13	3	12
New damp course provided ... ..	2	1	—	—
Floors repaired or relaid ... ..	20	21	31	22
Ceilings replastered ... ..	14	13	10	20
Walls replastered or matchboarding renewed ... ..	19	18	11	15
Dampness eradicated in walls and ceilings... ..	16	6	13	17
Sashcords renewed ... ..	15	18	25	13
Staircases repaired and/or handrails provided ... ..	—	2	1	1
Firegrates repaired or renewed ... ..	9	3	4	3
Smoking flues remedied ... ..	5	2	—	3
Rooms and staircases redecorated ... ..	11	21	19	45
Washing copper repaired or renewed ... ..	3	2	2	2
Miscellaneous repairs ... ..	10	2	5	2
<b>(b) FOUL CONDITIONS.</b>				
Obstructed drains cleared ... ..	54	78	75	77
Obstructed sewers referred to Borough Surveyor... ..	8	12	9	25
Houses cleansed and disinfested ... ..	14	18	26	6
<b>(c) DRAINAGE, PAVING AND WATER SUPPLIES.</b>				
Cesspools abolished and drainage connected to sewer ... ..	—	—	1	4
Drains relaid or repaired ... ..	15	8	6	10
W.C. pans renewed ... ..	5	7	2	13
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed ... ..	14	11	20	16
Additional W.C.'s provided, W.C. structures repaired or rebuilt ... ..	16	11	2	7
W.C.'s provided with water supply and/or water pipes repaired ... ..	5	7	7	10
W.C. seats repaired or renewed ... ..	2	—	—	1
Gully drains repaired or dishing renewed ... ..	1	3	5	10
Soil and vent pipes repaired or renewed ... ..	—	—	—	1
Yard paving relaid or provided ... ..	2	1	3	1
Sink and bath wastepipes repaired or renewed ... ..	7	3	4	7
Manholes and/or covers repaired or renewed ... ..	4	3	5	5
Additional sinks provided or renewed ... ..	1	—	—	1

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
<b>(d) SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT INNS, ETC.</b>				
New door provided ... ..	1	—	—	1
Screening ... ..	1	—	—	1
Indication of Separation of Sexes ... ..	1	—	—	1
<b>(e) COLLECTION OF REFUSE AND SALVAGE.</b>				
Offensive accumulations removed ... ..	6	—	2	7
New dustbins provided ... ..	16	30	110	178
<b>(f) KEEPING OF ANIMALS.</b>				
Accumulations of manure removed... ..	2	—	2	3
Drainage provided ... ..	—	—	1	—
Premises limewashed ... ..	2	—	5	3
Discontinued after informal action ... ..	—	—	—	1
<b>(g) OTHER NUISANCES, INCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADES.</b>				
Fish frying premises cleansed and limewashed ... ..	2	—	3	2
Structural alterations and improvements ... ..	—	—	—	4
<b>(h) TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.</b>				
Unlicensed caravans moved on ... ..	9	—	3	3
<b>(i) SCHOOLS.</b>				
Disinfected after Infectious Disease ... ..	6	4	—	1
<b>(j) INFECTIOUS DISEASE.</b>				
Rooms disinfected after notifiable diseases ... ..	68	80	51	46
Rooms disinfected after non-notifiable disease ... ..	21	20	26	5
Bedding disinfected ... ..	1	3	2	2
<b>(k) VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.</b>				
Rooms disinfested ... ..	112	57	29	31
Firewatching accommodation disinfested ... ..	10	2	1	—
Wardens' Post... ..	—	1	—	—
Verminous articles ... ..	entire contents of 4 rms. destroyed	—	—	entire contents of 4 rms. destroyed
Verminous persons cleansed ... ..	5	—	—	—
<b>(l) FACTORIES, INCLUDING BAKEHOUSES.</b>				
Additional sanitary accommodation provided ... ..	13	3	3	—
Existing sanitary accommodation improved ... ..	3	5	5	—
Mixing troughs renewed ... ..	—	1	—	1
Intervening ventilated space provided between W.C.'s and workroom ... ..	3	1	3	—
Defective floors renewed ... ..	—	—	—	1
Adequate screening provided for sanitary accommodation ... ..	1	1	2	—
Defective walls replastered ... ..	1	—	—	1
Premises limewashed... ..	5	4	6	2
Accumulations of refuse removed ... ..	4	—	—	—
Smoke nuisances abated ... ..	—	—	3	2
<b>(m) COWSHEDS, DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.</b>				
Floors relaid ... ..	—	1	1	—
Premises limewashed (or painted) ... ..	4	2	1	2
Clean overalls provided ... ..	—	—	1	—
Cooling of milk enforced ... ..	1	1	—	—
Additional natural light provided ... ..	—	—	1	—
Dairies reconditioned or rebuilt ... ..	—	1	1	2
Sanitary accommodation and washing facilities provided ... ..	—	—	—	1
<b>(n) SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND BUTCHERS' SHOPS.</b>				
Doors refixed ... ..	—	1	—	—
Limewashing ... ..	1	2	3	2
Refuse cleared... ..	—	—	—	1
Extended and reconditioned... ..	1	1	1	1
<b>(o) RESTAURANT KITCHENS.</b>				
Cleansed ... ..	1	—	1	—
Improved ... ..	1	—	1	—
<b>(p) OVERCROWDING.</b>				
Abated after informal action ... ..	2	3	2	—



*Offensive Trades.*

The Corporation have not seen fit up to the present to apply for sanction to the making and confirmation of a new Order under the provisions of Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, continuing the trade or business of fish-frying as an offensive trade. As a result of this there is only one trade, that of a dealer in rags, which can be considered as coming within this category.

*Factories Act, 1937.*

Information as to the number of inspections made, notices served, and work carried out under the provisions of the above Act are set out in the following tables :—

*Factories, including Bakehouses.*

(1) INSPECTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH.

Premises.	Number of												
	Inspections.				Informal Notices.				Occupiers prosecuted.				
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	
FACTORIES—													
(i) With mechanical power ... ..	29	38	48	19	10	8	7	6	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
(ii) Without mechanical power ... ..	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	

(2) DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.												Number of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.			
	Found.				Remedied.				Referred to H.M. Inspector.							
	1942	1943	1944	1945	1942	1943	1944	1945	1942	1943	1944	1945	1942	1943	1944	1945
Insufficiency of Sanitary accommodation ...	5	3	3	—	5	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Defective and/or obstructed drains ...	2	—	3	2	2	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Absence of intervening ventilated space ...	1	2	2	—	1	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate screening of entrances to sanitary accommodation	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Limewashing required	—	5	2	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary accommodation provided with mechanical ventilation ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Defective flushing cisterns ... ..	—	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dirty condition of sanitary accommodation	—	2	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Offensive accumulation of refuse ... ..	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Structural defects in sanitary accommodation ... ..	3	3	2	—	3	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

In addition to the above, action was taken to abate smoke nuisances in 1943, 1944 and 1945 at three factories.

**(iv) Shops and Offices.**

The duties under the Shops Act with regard to hours of duty, employment, etc., were for the period under review carried out by a part-time Shops Inspector. The Corporation have now decided that as from April 1st, 1946, these duties shall be carried out in the Public Health Department.

While a considerable number of visits were paid to shops in the course of normal duties it was not found necessary to take action under Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934.

**(v) Camping Sites.**

The abnormal conditions relative to the number of caravans within the Borough mentioned in the Report for 1939 to 1941 have continued throughout the whole of 1942 to 1945. Originally the majority of these vans were occupied by a good type of genuine showman, but latterly they were joined by gypsies, pedlars and hawkers with the result that conditions on the ground became very unsatisfactory.

Action was taken in the early months of 1946 with the result that the whole of the vans, tents and sheds, etc., on the camping ground at the rear of the Bird-in-Hand in High Street North was removed and the ground generally cleaned up. An undertaking was obtained from the owner of the land that no further camping would be allowed on the site.

Apart from the need for careful observation to see that indiscriminate camping does not take place by gypsies, hawkers, etc., little trouble should now arise in this connection.

(1) Number of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1942, three ; 1943, four ; 1944, four ; 1945, two.

(2) No licences for permanent camping sites were issued during the four years.

(3) The estimated number of caravans in the area throughout the period was forty. A system of individual licensing of caravans for limited periods and subject to certain conditions was instituted in 1942. The number of such licences issued was :-

1942	1943	1944	1945
15	13	12	8

The figures do not, of course, include genuine showmen.

(vi) **Smoke Abatement.**

Informal action was necessary in three instances during 1944 and 1945. The management was interviewed in each case and stokers advised; mechanical stoking was provided at one factory as a result of this action and a brick chimney carried to a suitable height provided in another instance. Two of these contraventions were undoubtedly aggravated by the necessity of using unsuitable fuel. Every possible support was given to the managements in their endeavour to remedy this, with varying success.

The industries in the Borough are such that under normal circumstances very little trouble is experienced as a result of smoke.

(vii) **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

There are two Swimming Pools within the Area.

(a) The "California Swimming Pool"—privately owned and used by the Public.

(b) The Dunstable Grammar School—used by the school only.

In each case there is the necessary plant to provide the maintenance of a satisfactory standard of purity for the bath water. Both pools are "open-air" and are used during the summer months only. Only two samples from the California Swimming Pool were taken during the period under review:—

*Sample No. 1.* 8-8-1944.

*Result :* " The sample is clean with no suspended matter.

" The amount of Free Chlorine present on arrival was 0.55 parts per million and the Hydrogen Ion Concentration was pH.7.6. The chemical results show some evidence of concentration.

" The bacteriological examination is very satisfactory as might be expected from the high Free Chlorine content.

" The water is quite safe for bathing purposes, but it might be advisable to slightly lower the chlorine dosage."

Sample No. 2. 25-7-45.

*Result :* " The result shows that the water is unsatisfactory for bathing purposes and more intense chlorination is indicated."

As a result of the sample, representations were made to the proprietors regarding the more regular chlorination of the bathing water and no further trouble was experienced.

#### (viii) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

1. Particulars of the actual action taken for the eradication of Bed Bugs is set out below in the manner required by the Ministry of Health Circular 1728.

				1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
(a) Number of Council Houses	(1) Infested	...	...	1	7	3	—
	(2) Disinfested	...	...	1	7	3	—
(b) Number of other houses	(1) Infested	...	...	12	6	22	8
	(2) Disinfested	...	...	12	6	22	8

2. Spraying with insecticide and fumigators were the methods employed.

3. Although during the war years there have been very few changes in the tenancies of Council Houses, co-operation between the Housing Estates Manager and the Sanitary Inspectors has been maintained. Where necessary inspection of the premises and effects of prospective tenants has been made. This policy will be followed in dealing with the temporary and permanent houses now being erected.

4. It has not been necessary to employ contractors ; all work was carried out by Corporation employees.

5. Advice and instruction is given to tenants with a view to preventing re-infestation.

#### (ix) Rat Destruction.

It was not until 1943 that the County Council delegated their powers under the Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. This, coinciding with a direction from the Ministry of Food under the Infestation Order, 1943, meant a more systematic control of the small rodent population of Dunstable.

A survey of the town was carried out in 1943 at the request of the Infestation Division, Ministry of Food, which confirmed

that the rat problem was not serious. Despite intensive propaganda for the reporting of rats seen, only one major infestation was discovered and thirty-three were minor infestations confirmed.

The following table shows the number of premises cleared of rats since that date :—

1944	...	25.	1945	...	26.
------	-----	-----	------	-----	-----

#### 4. Schools.

As a result of minor epidemics of scarlet fever which occurred, more particularly in two schools, a considerable amount of disinfection has been carried out.

In 1942, two dormitories, six sickrooms and a classroom were disinfected at one school while another school was completely disinfected.

In 1943 four whole schools and the sickroom and common room in another were disinfected.

In 1945 it was necessary to disinfect the sickroom and dormitory at one school.

Particular attention has been paid to the milk supplied to schools and this is referred to in the part of the report dealing with Milk Supplies generally.

#### 5. Cinemas.

Inspections have been made and reports as to the sanitary conditions presented to the Licensing Authority prior to the granting of the Annual Licence.

Conditions have always been found to be satisfactory.

### SECTION D—

## HOUSING.

No statutory action has been taken under the Housing Acts during the 1942/1945 years and war conditions have prevented any organised housing progress. Certain works have, however, been carried out as circumstances permit :—

#### (a) *Inspections and Repairs.*

A number of inspections have been made and many useful works of repair have been carried out as a result of informal action under the Public Health Acts. This is enumerated in the schedule in this Report.

• Inspections were made of 140 houses as a preliminary to a detailed survey and action when this becomes possible.

(b) *Overcrowding.*

Wherever conditions are such that action can reasonably be taken to deal with overcrowding such action has been taken with the result that abatement has been secured as follows :—

1942	1943	1944	1945
2	3	2	4

The Corporation are using their powers of requisitioning in every case where conditions justify the action being taken.

While there is a points system in operation with respect to the letting of these and Council houses when available, I am permitted to attend each meeting when houses are allocated and very favourable consideration is given to those cases which, although not highly pointed, are living under very overcrowded conditions or when other circumstances such as tuberculosis are involved.

All applications for new houses are passed by the Housing Manager to the Public Health Department. Apart from all other circumstances the Public Health Department can award up to ten points for overcrowded or other conditions detrimental to health.

The number of visits necessary in this connection is very high (282 in the last four months of 1945) as where the numbers may appear small the circumstances being such that two and three families often occupy a single house makes the separation of sexes a bigger difficulty than overcrowding as a result of the actual number of occupants.

I feel as a result of my observations and experience in connection with this matter that the present standard in the Housing Acts, 1936, by which the permitted number of occupants is laid down is far from satisfactory.

The information gained as a result of these visits is, in my view, worth the extra work involved as it enables the Department to measure and keep in close contact with the overcrowding situation and to use whatever power or influence possible to alleviate the worst cases.

(c) *New Housing.*

As this Report is being prepared the first ten prefabricated houses are being erected by the Corporation at the Half Moon Estate.

The foundations, drainage, etc., for fifty have been ready for some months. Four permanent houses are also being erected by direct labour on the Beecroft Estate.

A contract for the erection of the first thirty houses on the Beecroft Estate has been placed and work commenced.

Licences have been issued to private builders for the erection of forty-eight houses, all of which are for sale. Of this number two had been completed by the end of May, 1946, and forty were in course of erection.

## SECTION E—

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### 1. Milk Supply.

##### (a) Registration.

The state of the registers at the end of 1945 was as follows :—

	1945.
Producer retailers with premises ... ..	2
Retailers with premises ... ..	12
Retailers with premises in adjoining areas ... ..	11
<i>Sterilised Milk.</i>	
Wholesalers with premises outside the Borough ... ..	1
Retailers of Milk in sealed containers (having no registered premises) ... ..	24
<i>Graded Milk.</i>	
Supplementary Licences ... ..	5

##### (b) Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936—1938.

The following supplementary licences were granted during the period under review :—

	1942	1943	1944	1945
Tuberculin Tested ... ..	1	1	1	4
Pasteurised ... ..	1	1	1	1

##### (c) Inspections.

The number of inspections and visits made during the period under review was as follows :—

1942	1943	1944	1945
86	51	94	40

As a result of these inspections various works were carried out, the principal items being four dairies rebuilt, sanitary accommodation and washing facilities provided in one case and lime-washing or other cleansing carried out in nine cases.

There are only two cowsheds in use within the Borough.





No. & YEAR OF SAMPLE.	NUMBER OF BACTERIA PER				PRESENCE OF B. COLI.					
	1 m.l.	1/100 m.l.	1/1,000 m.l.	1/10,000 m.l.	After 48 hours—per			After 3 days—per		
					1/100 m.l.	1/1,000 m.l.	1/10,000 m.l.	1/100 m.l.	1/1,000 m.l.	1/10,000 m.l.
1943.										
1	117,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	15,000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	540,000	overcrowded	overcrowded	54	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
4	940,000	overcrowded	overcrowded	94	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
5	315,000	overcrowded	310	32	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
6	285,000	overcrowded	280	29	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
7	34,330	290	34	4	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
8	161,660	1,550	160	17	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
9	67,000	630	68	7	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
10	345,000	overcrowded	340	35	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
1944.										
1	19,130	—	—	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
2	18,000	150	19	2	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
3	33,660	280	33	4	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
4	27,000	230	28	3	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
5	315,000	overcrowded	310	32	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
6	20,060	—	—	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
7	52,660	460	52	6	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
8	16,160	—	—	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
9	181,330	1,740	180	19	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
10	82,660	760	82	9	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
11	225,000	overcrowded	220	23	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
12	325,000	overcrowded	320	33	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
13	94,330	890	94	10	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
14	33,000	270	32	4	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
15	56,000	—	—	—	Pos.	Pos.	Pos.	—	—	—
16	245,000	overcrowded	240	25	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
17	34,660	290	35	4	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
18	171,660	1,650	170	18	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
19	151,330	1,440	150	16	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
20	620,000	overcrowded	overcrowded	62	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
21	235,000	overcrowded	230	24	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
22	161,330	1,540	160	17	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
23	162,000	1,560	160	17	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
24	172,000	1,660	170	18	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
1945.										
1	140,000	—	—	—	Pos.	Pos.	Pos.	—	—	—
2	—	no count	—	—	Satisfied the prescribed test.					
3	235,000	overcrowded	230	24	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
4	53,000	470	52	6	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
5	55,660	520	56	6	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
6	76,330	720	77	8	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
7	47,330	440	48	5	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
8	35,660	310	36	4	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
9	55,000	490	56	6	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
10	161,330	1,540	160	17	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
11	120,660	1,120	120	13	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
12	141,660	1,350	140	15	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
13	225,000	overcrowded	220	23	Pos.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Pos.	Neg.
14	191,330	1,840	190	20	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
15	215,000	overcrowded	210	22	Pos.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Pos.	Neg.
16	66,330	630	66	7	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
17	181,330	1,740	180	19	Pos.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Pos.	Neg.
18	141,000	1,330	140	15	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
19	47,200	—	—	—	Pos.	—	—	—	—	—
20	25,000	—	—	—	Pos.	—	—	—	—	—
21	660,000	overcrowded	overcrowded	66	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
22	215,000	overcrowded	210	22	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
23	45,660	410	46	5	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
24	44,330	390	44	5	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
25	56,000	520	56	6	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
26	275,000	overcrowded	270	28	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
27	265,000	overcrowded	260	27	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
28	385,000	overcrowded	380	39	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
29	255,000	overcrowded	250	26	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
30	220,000	—	—	—	Pos.	Pos.	Pos.	—	—	—
31	66,000	—	—	—	Pos.	Pos.	Pos.	—	—	—
32	315,000	overcrowded	310	32	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.

NO. & YEAR OF SAMPLE.	NUMBER OF BACTERIA PER				PRESENCE OF B. COLI.					
	1 m.l.	1/100 m.l.	1/1,000 m.l.	1/10,000 m.l.	After 48 hours—per			After 3 days—per		
					1/100 m.l.	1/1,000 m.l.	1/10,000 m.l.	1/100 m.l.	1/1,000 m.l.	1/10,000 m.l.
1945. <i>Contd.</i>										
33	65,330	610	65	7	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
34	76,000	720	76	8	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
35	235,000	overcrowded	230	24	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
36	12,130	—	—	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
37	141,330	1,340	140	15	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
38	161,660	1,550	160	17	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
39*	415,000	overcrowded	410	12	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
40*	720,000	overcrowded	overcrowded	72	Pos.	Pos.	Neg.	Pos.	Pos.	Neg.
41	67,000	630	68	7	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
42	20,130	—	—	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
43	8,400	—	—	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
44	44,000	380	44	5	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
45	9,700	—	—	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
46	19,130	190	20	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
47	52,660	460	52	6	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
48	94,330	890	94	10	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
49	121,330	1,140	120	13	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
50	32,660	260	32	4	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
51	27,000	230	28	3	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
52	26,330	210	28	3	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
53	35,660	310	36	4	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
54	86,000	820	86	9	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.	Pos.	Neg.	Neg.
55	44,330	390	44	5	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
56	56,330	520	57	6	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
57	11,130	—	—	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
58	15,660	110	16	2	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
59	7,260	—	—	—	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	—	—	—
53a	No count	—	—	—	Satisfied the	Neg.	Neg.	prescribed test.	—	—

\* Nos. 39 and 40/1945 are samples of ice cream.

(e) *Graded Milk.*

Included in the foregoing table are the results of six samples of pasteurised milk sold under supplementary licences :—

Number and Date of Sample.	No. of Bacteria per m.l.	Result of Examination.
No. 1/1944	19,130	Did not satisfy the prescribed test.
No. 8/1944	16,160	Satisfied the prescribed test.
No. 15/1944	56,000	" " " "
No. 2/1945	—	" " " "
No. 36/1945	12,130	" " " "
No. 43/1945	8,400	" " " "

In addition to the above six samples a further ten samples of pasteurised milk not sold under licence were also submitted, and the results are as under :—

Number and Date of Sample.	No. of Bacteria per m.l.	Result of Examination.
No. 6/1944	20,060	Satisfied the prescribed test.
No. 23/1944	162,000	" " " "
No. 1/1945	140,000	Did not satisfy the prescribed test.
No. 10/1945	165,330	" " " "
No. 30/1945	220,000	Satisfied the prescribed test.
No. 31/1945	66,000	" " " "
No. 42/1945	20,130	" " " "
No. 53a/1945	—	" " " "
No. 57/1945	11,130	" " " "
No. 59/1945	7,260	" " " "

(f) *School Milk.*

Special attention has been directed to milk supplied to schools and the cleanliness of the milk bottles.

Conditions have been such that on more than one occasion it has been necessary to take action, not only with the retailers but through the medium of the County Education Authority and the Ministry of Food. On one occasion the retailer to a particular school was changed.

The results of the samples taken during the last six months have been very satisfactory.

(g) *Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream.*

Since this commodity has been on sale again some attention has been given to premises where it is manufactured and to the methods of handling by, and the personal cleanliness of the vendors, particularly from street barrows. Two samples were submitted for bacteriological examination towards the end of 1945. The results of Nos. 39/40, 1945, are shown in the Milk Samples Table and while there is no standard laid down the results could not be considered satisfactory.

On one occasion representations were made to the employers regarding the personal cleanliness and habits of their employees.

At the outbreak of war in 1939 there were twenty-two premises registered for the manufacture or sale of ice cream in accordance with Section 14 of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

## **2. Meat and Other Foods.**

(a) *Slaughterhouses.*

There is now only one Slaughterhouse in the Borough and this is still under the control of the Ministry of Food. The premises are well built and contain reasonably good facilities for the work carried on there.

During 1944 the lairage was partly rebuilt and the old timber and galvanised iron sheds were rebuilt in brickwork. The floors, doors and roofs were renewed.

In 1945 the open way leading to the hanging room and slaughtering floor was covered so as to enable meat vans to load under cover.

The following table shows the carcasses inspected against the number slaughtered and the percentage of animals either wholly condemned or some part of which was condemned.

## CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows.				Cows.				Calves.				Sheep and Lambs.				Pigs.			
	1942	1943	1944	1945	1942	1943	1944	1945	1942	1943	1944	1945	1942	1943	1944	1945	1942	1943	1944	1945
Number killed if known... ..	1745	1505	1382	1631	1133	1119	933	906	457	431	405	278	3598	1856	1598	600	204	108	56	93
Number inspected ... ..	1745	1505	1382	1631	1133	1119	933	906	457	431	405	278	3598	1856	1598	600	204	108	56	93
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>																				
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	9	5	12	10	6	2	18	11	—	2	3	3	5	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	246	253	266	489	181	206	219	309	2	4	10	1	75	43	50	13	7	2	12	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ... ..	14.6	17.1	20.1	30.6	16.5	18.5	21.2	35.3	.44	1.39	.33	1.43	2.2	2.31	3.2	2.15	3.9	1.85	23.2	3.22
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>																				
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	19	8	15	12	42	44	40	30	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	359	287	257	318	523	510	409	337	3	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	20	11	4	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	21.66	19.6	19.7	20.23	49.8	49.5	48.1	40.5	.65	1.39	1.48	.36	—	—	—	—	10.29	10.18	7.14	7.5

Table showing monthly total of animals slaughtered and inspected.

<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>
<b>YEAR 1942.</b>						
January ...	67	68	15	18	334	502
February ...	55	68	8	2	64	197
March ...	38	98	8	14	16	174
April ...	132	80	18	33	185	448
May ...	194	86	20	21	237	558
June ...	145	99	13	9	217	483
July ...	158	84	26	14	480	762
August ...	179	114	69	2	419	783
September ...	242	89	104	10	261	706
October ...	199	146	133	39	524	1,041
November ...	200	113	21	26	371	731
December ...	136	88	22	16	490	752
	<b>1,745</b>	<b>1,133</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>3,598</b>	<b>7,137</b>
<b>YEAR 1943.</b>						
January ...	104	91	22	28	248	493
February ...	89	103	24	9	72	297
March ...	129	93	56	12	92	382
April ...	144	91	33	4	225	497
May ...	133	81	29	9	108	360
June ...	175	77	35	3	167	457
July ...	144	71	25	8	142	390
August ...	173	67	22	1	5	268
September ...	131	83	40	9	279	542
October ...	91	126	74	8	240	539
November ...	106	125	44	3	187	465
December ...	86	111	27	14	91	329
	<b>1,505</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>1,856</b>	<b>5,019</b>
<b>YEAR 1944.</b>						
January ...	83	93	27	4	52	259
February ...	70	88	25	4	32	219
March ...	67	98	50	2	54	271
April ...	97	79	32	3	113	324
May ...	156	50	29	2	144	381
June ...	119	46	21	3	64	253
July ...	148	42	15	4	99	308
August ...	140	58	26	11	170	405
September ...	93	74	37	2	75	281
October ...	156	104	38	2	289	589
November ...	165	110	81	9	305	670
December ...	88	91	24	10	201	414
	<b>1,382</b>	<b>933</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1,598</b>	<b>4,374</b>

Month.	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep and Lambs.	Total.
YEAR 1945.						
January ...	113	90	31	8	75	320
February ...	69	97	31	9	21	227
March ...	111	86	27	2	94	320
April ...	126	86	40	4	87	343
May ...	138	47	44	24	126	379
June ...	64	53	12	4	10	143
July ...	105	46	9	1	57	218
August ...	121	47	5	10	47	230
September ...	114	70	23	5	24	236
October ...	177	66	15	1	61	320
November ...	404	166	14	20	1	605
December ...	89	52	27	5	21	194
	1,631	906	278	93	624	3,532

*Meat Inspected in Slaughterhouse and found to be Unfit for Human Consumption.*

The following list shows the amount of meat found to be diseased or unsound as a result of the routine inspections, and voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption.

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
CATTLE.				
Whole carcasses and all organs...	76	59	85	63
Forequarters ...	40	31	33	24
Briskets ...	29	34	46	25
Hindquarters ...	8	10	11	7
Parts, bruising, etc. ...	57	60	98	69
Clods and Sticking ...	41	34	19	12
Heads and tongues ...	409	472	391	394
Heads (excluding tongues) ...	80	23	4	3
Lungs ...	876	813	833	624
Livers and parts ...	1,386	1,572	1,354	1,063
Hearts ...	88	44	57	46
Skirts ...	98	50	91	49
Spleens ...	94	63	75	33
Tails ...	3	1	6	1
Kidney and Suet ...	44	31	30	18
Mesentery ...	106	—	—	—
Udders ...	57	93	144	89
Tripe ...	—	—	71	27
Tripe sets... ...	294	205	142	278
CALVES.				
Whole carcasses and organs complete ...	—	5	4	4
Livers ...	2	6	16	8
Lungs ...	1	7	20	6
Heads and plucks ...	3	5	9	2
Veal parts ...	—	1 lb.	5 lbs.	1 lb.

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
<b>SHEEP AND LAMBS.</b>				
Whole carcasses ... ..	5	—	1	—
Part carcasses ... ..	2	1	1	1
Livers and parts ... ..	90	119	84	20
Lungs ... ..	12	2	4	1
Heads ... ..	3	—	1	—
Hearts ... ..	5	1	4	1
Guts and Fat ... ..	—	1	—	3
Paunches ... ..	32	—	—	—
<b>PIGS.</b>				
Whole carcasses and organs complete ... ..	2	—	1	—
Part carcasses ... ..	3	—	8	—
Heads ... ..	18	10	5	9
Livers ... ..	13	5	15	15
Hearts ... ..	9	4	4	8
Lungs ... ..	10	6	18	11
Kidneys ... ..	—	—	—	—
Mesenteries ... ..	13	5	7	15

From the commencement of centralised slaughtering it has been possible to keep a more careful and comparative record of the amount of meat found to be unfit for human consumption. A Summary of the records is appended herewith.

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Bovine (excluding calves) ... ..	96,267 lbs.	84,718 lbs.	89,668 lbs.	82,788 lbs.
Calves ... ..	38 "	333 "	610 "	401 "
Sheep and Lambs ... ..	492 "	190 "	125 "	139 "
Pigs ... ..	700 "	236 "	468 "	482 "
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>97,497 lbs.</b>	<b>85,577 lbs.</b>	<b>90,871 lbs.</b>	<b>83,810 lbs.</b>

#### *Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.*

There is no Meat Marking Scheme in operation in accordance with Part 111 of the above regulations. No offence against the regulations was discovered during the four years under review.

#### *Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.*

No offences under this Act came to notice.

The number of licences to act as Slaughtermen in force at the end of 1945 was fourteen.

#### *(b) Meat and Food other than in Slaughterhouse.*

Considerable attention was given to premises where food is stored, prepared or sold. As a result, a number of unsatisfactory conditions due principally to want of cleanliness were remedied.

It was not found necessary to seize meat or other food during the period under review and it has not been necessary to take statutory action of any kind.

The undermentioned table shows the amount and variety of foodstuffs voluntarily surrendered by the owners and destroyed or utilised for animal feeding stuffs ; as being unfit for human consumption :—

	1942.		1943.		1944.		1945.	
	<i>Tins or pkts.</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>	<i>Tins or pkts.</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>	<i>Tins or pkts.</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>	<i>Tins or pkts.</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>
Corned Beef ... ..	88	519	158	339	10	60	135	311
Chopped Ham ... ..	184	1,104	30	85	4	17	17	81
Beef Steak, etc. ... ..	7	16	5	5	8	6	20	19
Pork ... ..	93	487	97	262	33	121	10	18
Sausage Meat ... ..	14	21	—	—	—	36	—	18
Tongue ... ..	1	6	—	—	—	8½	9	22
Other Tinned Meat ... ..	21	25	7	28	17	23	14	63
Beef ... ..	—	—	—	248	—	—	—	—
Pork ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	237	—	—
Bacon ... ..	—	53	—	82	—	12	—	14
Hams ... ..	—	—	—	31	—	19	—	—
Dressed Rabbits ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60
Fish, Tins... ..	20	—	81	—	182	—	157	—
Fish, Fresh ... ..	—	287	—	498	—	—	—	157
Frozen Tripes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	90	—	—
Vegetables, Tins ... ..	66	50	42	32	46	34	53	40
Vegetables, Others ... ..	—	56	—	—	—	336	—	112
Fruit ... ..	142	—	50	—	3	—	—	25
Milk ... ..	167	—	10	—	155	—	134	—
Milk, Dried ... ..	—	—	—	42	—	—	—	—
Soup ... ..	2	—	7	—	17	12	—	—
Jam & Marmalade ... ..	—	—	1	1	22	22	4	—
Cheese ... ..	—	17	—	70	—	10	—	—
Eggs ... ..	132	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sweets, etc. ... ..	—	—	—	11	—	29	—	56
Tea ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	7¼	—	—
Sugar ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—
Paste ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Meat Pies, Cakes, etc. ... ..	15	5	39	—	20	15	42	—
All Bran ... ..	—	—	—	—	5	—	2	—
Flour ... ..	—	12	—	189	—	—	—	64
Biscuits ... ..	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—
Custard Powder ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Macaroni ... ..	—	224	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barley, Oatmeal, etc. ... ..	—	56	—	—	—	—	—	16

*Registration of Premises where Food is Manufactured for Sale.*  
*Sale of Food & Drugs Act, 1938.*

At the end of the year the following premises were registered under the provision of Section 14 of the above Act :—

Preparation of Fish & Chip Potatoes ... ..	6
Manufacture of Sausages ... ..	17
Preparation of Cooked Ham ... ..	4
Preparation of Meat Pies ... ..	2



(d) *Adulteration of Food, etc.*

The Town Council are not the Food and Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. No action was taken by this Department during the period under review, other than that detailed in previous sections of the Report.

(e) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.*

Apart from the samples of milk and ice cream submitted for bacteriological examination and referred to previously in this Report, only one other sample was submitted.

This was tinned fish roll which was submitted for bacteriological examination. Although apparently offensive it was found to be quite satisfactory and fit for human consumption.



