# Contributors

Basingstoke (England). Rural District Council.

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ANNUAL REPORT

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of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

BASINGSTORE RURAS DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 3559.



#### BASINGSTOKE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department, "Eastlands", London Road, Basingstoke.

May, 1960.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 1959.

<u>Vital Statistics</u> - Vital statistics indicate a satisfactory state of health. Once again there is an increase in births and the number of deaths show a marked decrease.

<u>General Health</u> - In spite of the excellent summer, General Practitioners in the area were kept busy with measles and other minor ailments. The influenza epidemic that started at the end of 1958 continued into the early part of the year and accounted for the increase in pneumonia deaths. There were no cases of Poliomyelitis or other illnesses requiring public health attention. The Poliomyelitis vaccination programme gathered strength and the majority attended for third injections when advised.

<u>Social and Sanitary Conditions</u> - There was a general consolidation of the various sewerage schemes completed in recent years. The Basing scheme was completed and is now working successfully. Minor unsatisfactory features at Bramley and Sherborne St. John have been rectified. With the completion of the Basing scheme, housing programmes in that area are going apace. The great majority of houses are now provided with mains water. A special allotment of Improvement Grants was set aside for Basing.

The scheme for weekly collections of refuse was once again considered and approved to be commenced in 1960.

I wish to thank Dr. Twort, the Medical Officer of Health, for giving me this opportunity of writing the annual report. I would also like to thank the Council and officers, in particular the staff of the Public Health Department, for the kindness shown to me during my service with the Rural District Council.

Yours faithfully,

P.L. KARNEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

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# STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

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Area 7	74,790	acres
Population - Registrar General's Estimate		
Mid 1959 1	17,600	
Number of inhabited houses	4,756	
Rateable Value£18	39,787	
Product of penny rate	£742	

# VITAL STATISTICS.

	1959	1958	1957
Live births	298	271	258
Live birth rate per 1000 population	16.93	15.43	14.67
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births		2.58	3.8
Stillbirths		4	4
Stillbirths rate per 1000 live and still births		14	15
Total live and still births		275	252
Infant deaths		15	5
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births - Total		55	19
" " " " " - Legitimate	181	- 53	16
" " " " - Illegitimate		140	100
Neonatal (first 4 weeks) rate per 1000 live births			15.5
Early Neonatal rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 live births).			-
Perinatal Mortality rate (still births and deaths under lweek).			
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births		2.58	3.8
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live and still births		Nil	Nil
Comparability factors	1.20	1.20	1.20
(Deaths	0.53	0.50	0.40
BIRTHS.			-
Male Female 1	otal	1958 195	2
Live births Legitimate 143 140	283	264 24	.8
Illegitimate 8 7	15	7 1	.0
Birth rate per 1000 population (corrected) 2	20.3	18.5 16.,	9
Average for England and Wales	.6.5	16.4 16.	1
Binthe same metally in Decalus (20). Decides (20). Dect Oakland	(20)	Ci. and and	- 61

Births were mainly in Bramley (39); Basing (28); East Oakley (19); Sherborne St. John (18); Sherfield-on-Loddon (17); Stratfieldsaye (15) and Pamber (12).

DEATHS.

	Male	Female	Total	1958	1957	
Deaths from all causes	105	146	251	358	361	
Death rate per thousand (corrected)			7.5	10.2	8.2	
Average for England and Wales			11.6	11.7	11.5	
MATERNAL MORTALITY.			Total	1958	1957	
From all causes			Nil	Nil	Nil	

# INFANT MORTALITY.

	Male	Female	Total	1958	<u>1957</u>	
Legitimate	3	l	4	14	4	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	l	l	

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# CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS.

	Under 24 hrs.	Under 1 week	1-4 weeks	1-3 months
Congenital malformations	1	l	l	-
Prematurity	l	-	-	-
STILL BIRTHS.				

	Male	Female	Total	1958	1957
Legitimate	5	l	6	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-	2	-

# Analysis of Causes of Death.

Code						
No.	Disease	Male	Female	Total	1958	1957
1	Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	1	1		2
38	Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-	l	1
	Measles	-	1	1	-	-
10	Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	2	2	4	5	7
11	Lung & Bronchus	6	3	9	9	8
12	Breast	-	6	6	4	6
13	Uterus	-	2	2	4	3
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	11	11	22	21	22
15	Leukaemia	1	-	1	-	-
16	Diabetes	1	-	1	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	14	32	59	56
18	Coronary Disease or Angina	16	11	27	36	39
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	6	3	9	19	14
20	Other Heart Disease	28	45	73	97	83
21	Other Circulatory Disease	4	9	13	13	21
22	Influenza	1	5	6	4	8
23	Pneumonia	8	12	20	13	24
24	Bronchitis	8	1	9	9	8
25	Other Disease of Respiratory System	-	1	1	1	1
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	1	1	4	1
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-	2	-
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1	8	6
29	Hyperplasia of Prostrate	1	-	1	2	3
31	Congenital Malformations	1	2	3	3	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	8	7	15	28	29
33	Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3	6	2
34	All other accidents	2	8	10	4	9
35	Suicide	-	-	-	5	l
36	Homicide	-	-	-	-	1

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#### EPIDEMIOLOGY.

# General Health.

Although 1959 was noted for its very fine summer, the General Practitioners remained busy during the summer months. Measles and other minor illnesses were the main cause. During the early part of the year the influenza epidemic which started at the end of 1958 continued, and accounted for a rise in pneumonia deaths.

# Notifiable Diseases.

Measles	208
Scarlet Fever	6
Pneumonia	12
Rubella	11
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	10
Non Pulmonary	2
Erysipelas	3
Puerperal Fever	1
Dysentery	7
Typhoid Fever	3
Mumps	1

# Immunisation - Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

During the year 262 primary courses were given, of which 43 were with combined vaccine (with whooping cough) and 180 with triple vaccine (tetanus added). In addition 173 were given booster doses.

Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster)	Under <u>1 vear</u>	<u>1 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 9</u>	<u>10 - 14</u>	Total under <u>15 years</u>
1955 - 1959	60	704	906	235	1905
1954 or earlier			373	1157	1530

# Vaccination - Smallpox.

The percentage of children under one year successfully vaccinated during the year ending 31st December 1959 is:-

			1959	1958	1957	
Basingstoke	Rural	District	71%	68%	85%	

Vaccination - Poliomyelitis.

Figures		and the second se					
-		59 .				<u>59</u>	
Born 1943	2nd inj.	3rd inj.	1958	Born	2nd inj.	3rd inj.	1958
	69	105	90	1952	38	141	119
1944	93	123	95	1953	52	176	147
1945	70	124	109	1954	33	154	135
1946	79	141	106	1955	33	147	145
1947	60	180	103	1956	53	162	150
1948	52	158	114	1957	62	164	133
1949	54	179	111	1958	48	57	9
1950	44	129	101	1959	36	-	-
1951	50	156	119	Expectant			
				Mothers	138	125	102
				Aged 33-42	766	402	-



#### SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

The district comprises 34 parishes and is mainly agricultural and residential. In recent years there has been a considerable increase in new houses built both by the Council and privately. Amenities have also improved there is now a piped water supply in most areas and sewerage in all the larger parishes. The estimated population as given by the Registrar General is steady, but infant births and other factors appear to indicate a rising population.

## General Health Services.

The County Council is the Health Authority. The local District Health Sub-Committee are responsible for helping and advising on these services.

## Maternity and Child Welfare - Health Visiting.

Child Welfare Centres are situated throughout the district. Activities, at which a doctor and nurse attend, include advice on feeding and child management, immunisation and the distribution of welfare foods.

Attendance at these centres has continued to be high, and advantage has been taken of Polio vaccination, promoting the scheme with a fair amount of success.

#### District Midwifery and Home Nursing. Annual Statistics for 1959 - 1958 figures in brackets for comparison.

	CASES			VIS	ITS	
Bramley		- All Cases (34)		on: (108)	4531	(4336)
Preston Candover		(17)	58	(48)		(1158)
Silchester	19	(9)	36	(30)	1509	(1055)
Upton Grey	8	(27)	175	(173)	1534	(2454)
Oakley	36	(28)	84	(95)	1497	(1760)
Basing	12	(15)	74	(8)	2330	(701)
Sherborne St. Joh	nn 3	(-)	4	(-)	496	(-)

# Home Help Service.

Summary of cases assisted.

	1959	1958
Maternity	2	10
Pre or Post Maternity	3	3
General Sickness	3	3 5 2
Post Hospital	3	2
Child Care	4	1
Chronic Sickness	-	3
Aged Sickness	5	10
Aged and Infirm	6	23
Tuberculosis	1	3
Residential	-	4
	-	
	27	64

These figures show a marked fall in the call for the Home Help Service. This is particularly so in the aged groups.



# Old People.'s Welfare.

The care and welfare of old people continues to be attracting the interest of voluntary welfare groups. The district now has 6 Old Peoples Clubs. The Club at Basing is extremely popular and this year has started a visiting service. It is possible that the increase in voluntary welfare work in this direction is partly responsible for the decrease in the call for the Home Help Service. Certainly I now come to know of old people needing care and attention much earlier than previously, and I am able to put them in touch with some form of service.

Once again I am grateful to the Welfare Officer for annual statistics of work for the area (comparative figures for 1958 are given in brackets).

# Visits, Applications and Admissions to Welfare Accommodation.

No. of cases visited	32	(33)	
Applications	14	(9)	
Admissions	11	(11)	
Senile aged persons admitted to Montal Hospitals under Section 2, Lunacy Act	10	(11)	
Visits to aged sick persons and confined to bed service for chronic sick	5	(2)	



# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Housing.

Number of dwellings completed since 1945 (as at 31.12.59).

	Total	Completed 1959	1958	1957
Private	655	75	104	69
Council	618	22	20	53

Houses were completed by the Council at Silcheste., Mortimer West End and Mapledurwell, but the majority were at Basing, as building here was previously held up owing to the absence of a sewerage scheme.

# Water Supply.

Piped water supplies are now available in all parishes. Regular sampling of water is carried out by the Department (details in the Senior Fublic Health Inspector's Report) and by the Statutory Water Company.

# Sewerage.

Permission has been granted for the second portion of the Basing scheme to go to tender. The first part is completed and working satisfactorily.

The schemes at Bramley, and Sherborne St. John continue to give occasional high B.O.D. figures and have been re-examined by the consultants.

MAY 1959.



#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1959.

# Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the following report concerning work carried out by your Public Health Inspectors during 1959.

1959 proved a year during which considerable progress in all branches of environmental hygiene was achieved. The emphasis was laid on advancements in the general standard of housing, improved standards of hygiene in food premises and the provision of modern amenities and main drainage systems in properties which hitherto had enjoyed none of these facilities.

After several years during which I have been happy to report that legal action was found unnecessary in carrying out our duties, 3 court cases were instituted during 1959. These concerned contaminated food, the occupation of an insanitary shack and the failure to comply with conditions imposed in a camping site licence. In each case, the Council was successful.

## Number and Nature of Visits and Inspections.

Houses under Public Health Acts431
Houses under Housing Acts
Houses under Housing Acts 1949 - 1959375
Overcrowded Houses
re-Housing Applications134
re Disinfestation of PremisesNil
re Water Supply154
Petroleum Installations 79
Moveable Dwellings and Camping Sites217
Factories 26
Schools 10
Food Premises
Refuse Collection and Disposal
Rodent Control, 35
Cesspool Emptying Service 99
Re-visits following service of Notices122
Re-visits following service of Notices122 Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits

#### NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

Outstanding December 1958		Serve 1959		Complied with 1959		Outstanding December 1959	
Statutory	Informal	Statutory	Informal	Statutory	Informal	Statutory	Informal
9	103	36	42	13	80	32	65

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Mr. Caliman, Ladies and Canalasen,

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NUMBER OF STORES AND COMPANY AND A STORES

# FOOD PREMISES.

Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors regarding food and food premises were as follows:-

	And a second s	No. of Inspections.
General Provision Shops	51	67
Meat Shops	4	19
Inns and Off Licences	43	25
Restaurants, Cafes, etc.	8	29
Bakehouses	4	6
Registered Ice Cream Premises	51	22
Registered Sausage Manufacturers	6	14
Hospitals and Old Peoples Homes	4	2
Dairies and Milk Distributors	36	27
Schools	24	10
Clubs	11	l
Watercress Growers	_7	_36
Tota	1 - 249	258
		===

# MILK SAMPLING.

Grade of Milk	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	17	17	Nil
Tuberculin Tested	1 18	18	Nil
	-	-	
To	otal - 35	35	Nil
	==	==	===

18 samples were subjected to the Milk Ring Test and only 1 gave a positive result. 19 guinea pig tests were made and all proved negative.

# ICE CREAM SAMPLING.

9 samples were taken and were reported upon as follows :-

rade	1	-	9
	2	-	Nil
11	3	-	Nil
п	4	-	Nil

There are no ice cream manufacturers in this district and only pre-packed ice cream is sold.

# WATERCRESS SAMPLING.

12 samples were taken after chlorination. All gave negative results when tested for coliform and salmonella organisms.

# SLAUGHTERHOUSES .

No public slaughterhouses exist in the area.



#### FOOD HYGIENE.

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The hygienic standards of the average rural food shops have not yet reached those of the large shops and supermarkets now being erected in the bigger centres of population.

In this Authority however, the majority of food premises have been considerably improved over the last few years. New washable materials for counters and shelving are being utilised. In all cases, adequate hot water is available. Larger and more hygienic store rooms are being constructed.

Major alterations were made to three general provision shops during the year. A new general stores and a cafe are under construction to replace existing unsatisfactory properties.

Minor improvements and repairs were made at a further 15 food premises.

A great deal of work remains. Instances of unsatisfactory conditions still to be found in the course of routine inspections include absence of refrigeration, open foods exposed to contamination, premises lacking adequate storage space and dirty food vehicles.

The awakening of the general public not to tolerate dirty or indifferent food handling remains a major factor towards the aim of safe and clean food. The housewife can do much to improve conditions by notifying the Department of any point considered unsatisfactory.

#### WATER SUPPLIES.

Public mains supplies were sampled regularly during the year, details of these are as follows:-

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Bacteriological	8	nil
Chemical	3	nil

Of 35 samples taken from private sources, 14 proved unsatisfactory. Action was taken to provide a satisfactory alternative supply in these cases, or improvements to wells were made when no piped supply was available.

Properties within reasonable distance of the new main at Ellisfield were inspected, and 4 Notices were served requiring the provision of an internal mains supply.

A mains extension in the Heatherwood area of Up Nately was authorised during the year.

#### SWIMMING POOL.

One public swimming pool exists in the area at Old Basing. Periodic inspections were made during the season, and regular sampling of the water gave satisfactory results.



#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Three licensed caravan sites having a total of 47 caravans exist in the district. One site, situated in a sewered area, has flush sanitation, adequate drainage, a laundry and electricity.

In addition, 68 caravans have Public Health licences. All these dwellings were visited on more than one occasion during the year. 6 applications for licences were refused.

#### HOUSING ACTS.

Continued good progress in dealing with unfit properties took place during the year. The following shews the position at the end of 1959, and the progress made in the 10 year programme undertaken by the Council in August 1955:-

	C	AT:	EGO	RY
Total unfit at 31.8.55	<u>50</u> 93	<u>5B</u> 79	<u>5A</u> 96	Total 268
Properties Demolished	42	9	8	59
Orders served and awaiting demolition	8	2	l	11
"Time and Place" Notices awaiting consideration	1	2	l	4
Closing Orders	2	7	2	11
Owners' Formal Undertakings accepted	22	7	4	33
Improved and rendered fit for habitation	13	18	18	49
In course of improvement and re-conditioning	l	5	15	21
Action deferred (Vyne Estate Properties)	1	2	-	3
	90	52	49	191
Still to be considered by Committee	3	27	47	77

It will be noted that although the half way stage in this clearance programme has not yet been reached, only 77 properties await the Public Health Committee's consideration.

During 1959 a further 12 families comprising 43 persons were rehoused from unfit houses. Formal action resulted in 9 more houses being demolished, 3 being closed and the Council accepted from owners 6 undertakings to use dwellings for purposes other than human habitation.

There remain in the district a number of properties upon which old undertakings under the Housing Acts "not to re-let for human habitation until made fit for that purpose" were accepted from owners. In their neglected and semiruinous condition these properties tend to bespoil the amenities of the district. Although such undertakings were accepted in good faith in times of building materials and labour difficulties, there appears little prospect now of them being reconditioned and made fit for habitation and it is perhaps unfortunate that circumstances prevented more decisive action being taken initially.

#### Improvement Grants.

43 applications in respect of 46 properties were approved during the year. 2 applications were refused. Since the Act was introduced grants have been approved in respect of 338 properties, or over 72% of the total number in the district.

## Repairs.

81 houses were rendered fit for habitation, as a result of informal action by your officers.

# . . OCMELLING RUGAEVIN

In addition, 66 cereven have fublic Health Hosseen, All there dealther were visited to zore than the constants dating the row, 5 applications for Hosseen war referent.

Continued good modereds in desiling wells with properties took place saming the year.. The fellowing since the positions of the sold of 1957, and the progress pets in the 10 row programme undertaken by the Council in Angust 1965;

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Standard Grants.

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Applications approved - 56 Applications refused - 3 Applications withdrawn - <u>1</u> Total - 60

The Act authorising these grants came into force on June 14th, and owners quickly took advantage of this method of raising housing standards.

#### REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTIONS AND DISPOSAL.

Fortnightly 'kerbside' collections were maintained throughout the year.

In this area where more congenial and remunerative employment is offered by local factories and government establishments it has always been somewhat difficult to recruit and retain suitable younger men who are prepared to undertake the heavy lifting work which this service involves. It is therefore pleasing to report that only one change in staff took place during 1959 and that the Council now employs on each vehicle a full crew, who not only work well together, but who are prepared also to show that little extra willingness and courteousness which the ratepayers appreciate.

Refuse disposal continued at the central site at Kiln Lane, Sherborne St. John. Regular treatments ensured that fly and vermin infestations were kept under control.

As the life of the present tip is now limited, the Council entered into negotiations with the owner for a 21 year lease of Marnel Dell, Sherborne St. John. If the Council is granted permission to use the site for this purpose, central tipping facilities will be available for many years to come.

The Council possesses one 13 cubic yard Shelvoke & Drewry side loading vehicle and 2 "Fore and Aft" tipping vehicles of the same manufacture. All vehicles gave satisfactory service during the year. A further "Fore and Aft" machine was ordered late in the year to be ready for service when weekly collections commence in the Spring of 1960,

The Depot at Coronation Road remains adequate for present requirements.

During the year the following materials were salvaged and a bonus scheme for the employees continued:-

		Cuantity				Value		
Paper	-	Tons 75	Cwts 13	(rs l	lbs 8	£ 559	s -	d -
Rags	-	l	4	2	17	31		-
Metals	-	13	3	3	-	73	-	-
						663	-	-

-----------

Comparative figures with former years are :-

1958 - £586 1975 - £496

#### CESSFOOL EMPTYING SERVICE.

This service was again in great demand by ratepayers and although considerable overtime was worked, delays in executing orders were frequent. The vehicle was regularly overworked and as a consequence, general maintenance necessarily became irregular and major repairs of a costly nature followed.

The cessation of this cleansing work in four parishes where sewers are now provided, failed to reduce the amount of work to be undertaken by this service, due to the many new private drainage systems installed in other parts of the district.

The extensive use of sewers for disposal purposes reduced to a minimum the loads disposed of on arable land.



Charges for the work remained at :-

The Rate Fund continued to contribute to this service a sum equal to one half the cost of emptying domestic pits after the owner had paid fully for the service twice in a financial year.

A 10% reduction on all charges where a contract is entered into, continues.

During the year 2,263 loads were removed, 13,534 miles covered and the income from the service was £2.436.

# FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948.

37 inspections were made and it was found necessary to serve 4 written notices, all of which were complied with.

#### SHOPS ACT 1950.

A total of 92 inspections were made, relating to ventilation and temperature of shops and to sanitary conveniences. 4 written notices were served and complied with.

## PESTS.

As in previous years, no bed bug infestations were found and flea infestations were confined to two properties.

The dry summer brought many complaints of flies, both at domestic and agricultural premises. Treatments were carried out by the Council's employees.

Many reports were received of the presence of wasps nests and these were eradicated where, in the broadest sense, they could be considered a menace to public health.

## MAIN DRAINAGE.

In the parishes of Old Basing, North Waltham, Sherborne St. John and Sherfield-on-Loddon a further 152 properties were connected to public sewers during the year.

A scheme for sewering the remaining parts of Old Basing was approved and the Minister of Housing and Local Government authorised the invitation of tenders for the work.

# CONVERSION OF PAIL CLOSETS INTO WATER CLOSETS.

In the parishes where public sewers are available the Council have now assisted owners of 111 properties towards the cost of converting pail closets into water closets in accordance with the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Health Act 1936.

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#### RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's sewers in Sherborne St. John, Sherfield-on-Loddon and North Waltham were test baited. A minor infestation was found at Sherfield-on-Loddon. Details of other rodent control work carried out during the year were :-1) Number of properties inspected --(a) Domestic and business - 1,724 (b) Agricultural 176 2) Total inspections carried out (including re-inspections) (a) Domestic and Business - 2,950 (b) Agricultural - 1,269 3) Properties found infested by (a) Rats 425 (b) Mice 43 4) Number of properties treated by Council's Rodent Operators -468 5) "Block Control" schemes - 83 carried out

The Council's policy of providing a free disinfestation service to house-holders continued, and wide use was made of this facility.

The Council decided to terminate the Contract Scheme for agricultural properties, and the number of contracts was progressively reduced throughout the year. The services of one Rodent Operator were consequently dispensed with.

Individual treatments, upon repayment, will continue to be made at agricultural premises when requested.

## LICENCES IN FORCE.

Petroleum	-	95
Slaughtermen	-	2
Slaughterhouses	-	1
Game Dealers	-	2
Moveable Dwellings	-	68
Milk Distributors	-	29
Premises registered for		
the sale of ice cream	-	51
Premises registered for		
the manufacture of sausages	-	6

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My thanks are due to the staff of the Public Health Department for the ready help and support I have received in all matters.

Yours obediently,

## P.C. BOX.

Senior Public Health Inspector.

