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**URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL
of
GAINSBOROUGH**



ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
with that of the
Sanitary Inspector

**For the Year
1948**



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**URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF GAINSBOROUGH,
1948.**

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor J. H. Muskett, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:

Councillor S. C. Stansell.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman:

Councillor Mrs. M. Brame.

Councillor C. Baines,

Councillor W. Hollobone,

Councillor H. C. Lee,

Councillor J. H. Muskett, J.P.,

Councillor G. H. Noble, J.P.,

Councillor Dr. C. W. Pearson, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Councillor P. Roberts,

Councillor E. Salisbury,

Councillor Mrs. B. F. Spicksley.

Councillor C. W. Wilson.

URBAN DISTRICT OF GAINSBOROUGH.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

J. C. MACARTNEY, M.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Building Inspector:

JOHN CARTER, A.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A.,

Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

G. F. SIXSMITH, Cert.S.I.B.

(Appointed 9th August, 1948)

General Assistant to Sanitary Inspector:

L. SEARSON

(to 9th August, 1948).

Assistant Meat Inspector:

J. H. SMITHSON.

FOXBY HILL ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

(Transferred 5th July, 1948, to Sheffield Regional Hospital Board).

Matron:

MISS O. M. L. ROBINSON,

S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.

GAINSBOROUGH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
10/12, Lord Street,
Gainsborough.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GAINSBOROUGH.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the annual report for 1948. This year is eventful in the history of the Public Health Service of the country because of the introduction on the 5th July of the working of the National Health Service Act, 1946. This Act and the National Insurance Acts, 1946, made some fundamental changes in the mode of administration of hospitals, some of the Public Health Services and the Social Insurance Services. So far as the work of this Council is concerned the chief changes are that the Foxby Hill Isolation Hospital has been taken over for administration by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board and that the Ambulance Service has come under the control of the major health authority, namely, Lindsey County Council, which is known as the "Local Health Authority" for these parts.

It will be noticed that there is a decrease of 340 in the population of the area. There were fewer births and a reduction in the Death Rate during the year. The remarkably low Infantile Mortality Rate, as shown in the tables of comparison, is noteworthy and as far as I am aware, this is the lowest ever recorded in Gainsborough. No serious incidence of Infectious Disease occurred and for the second year in succession there was not one case of Diphtheria.

Mr. G. F. Sixsmith was appointed as Additional Sanitary Inspector in August. The very able and energetic manner in which Mr. Carter, Senior Sanitary Inspector, executed the multifarious duties is much appreciated.

In conclusion I wish to express my thanks to the members of the Council for their interest in the work of the Health Department. Also I am grateful for the willing and helpful co-operation of all Council officials and their staffs.

Yours faithfully,

J. C. MACARTNEY.

SECTION A.

1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the Urban District.....	2,406 acres
Estimated Population	17,250
Number of inhabited houses end 1948.....	5,201
Rateable Value	£94,279
Sum represented by 1d. Rate.....	£370/17/9½

The chief industries of the area are Engineering, Timber, Malting and Milling.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate
Live Births	315	179	136	18.2
Legitimate	296	165	131	
Illegitimate	19	14	5	
Still Births	6	2	4	
Legitimate	5	2	3	
Illegitimate	1	0	1	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still Births.....				18.7

Deaths. 1948. All causes.

Total	Male	Female	Death Rate
223	117	106	12.3

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES (Headings 29 and 30)
None.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births.....25.39

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE IN GAINSBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

in 1928 was.....	51.6
in 1938 was.....	82.8
in 1948 was.....	25.4

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Whooping Cough	1	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	1	5
Other Forms Tuberculosis	1	1	2
Influenza	—	1	1
Cancer of Desophagus.....	1	4	5
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	1	6
Cancer of Breast	—	3	3
Cancer of all Other Sites	18	15	33
Diabetes.....	1	1	2
Intracranial Vascular Diseases	10	16	26
Heart Disease	34	26	60
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	4	5
Bronchitis	4	2	6
Pneumonia.....	4	3	7
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1	3
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	1	1
Diarrhoea, under 2 years.....	—	—	—
Other Digestive Causes	6	1	7
Nephritis	6	4	10
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	—	1	1
Premature Births	—	1	1
Congenital Diseases and Malformations.....	1	2	3
Suicide.....	1	—	1
Other Violent Causes.....	—	1	1
All other Causes.....	17	16	33
TOTAL (all causes)	117	106	223

COMPARATIVE TABLES.

Births	Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate
1948	315	179	136	18.2
1947	388	209	179	22.05
1946	392	201	191	22.5
1945	290	159	131	17.07
1944	356	195	161	20.4
Deaths	Total	Male	Female	Death Rate
1948	223	117	106	12.3
1947	241	131	110	13.7
1946	213	115	98	12.02
1945	221	128	93	13.01
1944	213	111	104	12.5

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	4	6
Illegitimate	2	—	2
Total	4	4	8

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS.

	Male	Female	Total
Congenital Causes	2	2	4
Whooping Cough	1	—	1
Premature Births	—	1	1
Pneumonia.....	1	1	2
Totals	4	4	8

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

1948.....	25.39
1947.....	51.5
1946.....	33.16
1945.....	44.8
1944.....	33.7

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

	* Birth Rate	* Death Rate	‡ Infant Mortality
England and Wales ..	17.9	10.8	34
126 Great Towns	20.0	11.6	39
148 Smaller Towns	19.2	10.7	32
London	20.1	11.6	31
Gainsborough	18.2	12.3	25.39

* Rates per 1,000 civilian population.

‡ Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

A. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

County Medical Officer: Dr. W. S. H. Campbell, O.B.E.

Health Information. Enquiries relating to local health services may be made of the M.O.H., 10/12, Lord Street, Gainsborough.

Health Centres. Until these centres are available doctors, dentists and pharmacists will continue to practise at their own premises.

Maternity Service. The following are amongst the provisions made:

- Midwives.
- Ante- and Post-Natal Clinics.
- Maternity Home and Hospital.
- Maternity Outfits.
- Care and Accommodation of Unmarried Mothers.
- Dental Treatment.

Child Care.

Infant Welfare Centres. Doctors and nurses attend here to advise parents on all matters relating to the health and welfare of children up to 5 years of age.

Dental Inspection.

Dental Treatment.

Welfare Foods.

Care of Premature Infants.

Day Nurseries. A Day Nursery is available at Trinity Street for children up to 5 years of age whose mothers go out to work. They are open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. A charge is made for this service.

School Clinics.

School Medical Inspection. Children attending maintained schools are examined as a routine three times during their school lives; on entry, in the last year of attendance at the Primary School and in their last year at school. Defects or conditions requiring attention are notified to the parents who are invited to be present at the examination.

Consultations and Specialist Treatment.

Speech Defects. Training and treatment arranged for.

Home Nursing.

Health Visitors. To advise on the care of children, nursing mothers, the prevention of the spread of infection and on health matters generally.

Sick Room Requisites, Appliances and Other Equipment.

Home Helps. For maternity cases during the lying-in period and where help is required in the case of the sick or aged. A charge is made for this service based on the family income.

Vaccination and Immunisation. Parents may have their children vaccinated against smallpox and immunised against diphtheria free of charge.

Mental Health.

Mental Illness. Treatment will be arranged in conjunction with the Regional Hospital Board. Supervision and after-care will be carried out by specially trained workers employed by the County Council.

Mental Defectives. Arrangements made for institutional care. The County Council are responsible for the care and supervision of mental defectives in their own homes.

Ambulance Service. A very highly efficient service now operates in the area for all varieties of requirements.

Minor Ailment Clinics for school children.

Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinics.

GAINSBOROUGH.

Bridge St. Clinic.	Woods Terrace Clinic.
Infant Welfare Centre: Every Thursday 2-0 p.m.	Every Monday, 2-0 p.m. Every Tuesday, 10-0 a.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic: Every Thursday, 10-0 a.m.	1st, 3rd and 5th Monday in month, 10-0 a.m.
Minor Ailment Clinic: Every Tuesday, 2-0 p.m.	

B. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

General Medical Care.

The Family Doctor.

Special Maternity Services apart from the Local Health Authority Service (General Practitioner Obstetrician).

Medicines, Drugs and Appliances.

Dentistry.

Supplementary Eye Service.

(Address of Executive Committee: Stonebow, Lincoln).

C. SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD.

Hospital and Specialist Services. All forms of treatment in general or special hospitals are available, both in-patient and out-patient treatment. This includes sanatorium treatment, maternity care, care of mental health and surgical operations. Consultants and specialists are available as far as resources permit.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

The usual services were satisfactorily carried out. Routine analyses of samples of the water supply were made at weekly intervals. Results and remarks thereon appear in the Sanitary Inspector's section of this report.

SECTION D.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Total of New Houses erected during the year	101
(1) By the Local Authority	101
(2) By other Local Authorities	—
(3) By other bodies or persons	—

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year—

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under public Health or Housing Acts)	347
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	987
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under Sub-head above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	—
(b) No. of inspections made for the purpose	—
(3) No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation....	4
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	347

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	215
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 36 Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	3
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	—
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	60
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	37
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	—
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	—

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year....	10
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	13
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	97
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	14
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	10
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	102
(d) Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved	—

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

This is dealt with fully in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During 1948 there were 282 notifications of Infectious Diseases, chiefly measles and whooping cough. Details of these are given in subsequent tables.

Food poisoning: No confirmed cases were recorded although, at a hostel for the chronic sick and aged persons, investigations were made which proved negative.

On the appointed day (the 5th July) under the National Health Service Act the responsibility for hospital treatment of Infectious Disease was transferred to the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board, who took over the responsibility for the administration of Foxby Hill Isolation Hospital.

Between the 1st January and the 4th August twenty-one cases were under observation or treatment as in-patients for the following diseases:—

Diphtheria	1 (Diagnosis not confirmed)
Scarlet Fever	4
Whooping Cough	4
Measles	5
Poliomyelitis	1
Erysipelas	1
Scabies	3
Tonsillitis	2
	—
	21
	—

Of these 21 cases only 10 belonged to the Urban District of Gainsborough, the remainder were from neighbouring Authorities. During the last five months of the year no further fever cases were admitted to Foxby Hill Hospital, as the Regional Hospital Board decided to cease using this hospital for fevers. Cases requiring hospitalisation were isolated chiefly at Lincoln Infectious Disease Hospital. This arrangement worked very satisfactorily.

During the year the matron resigned owing to ill-health and the post was filled by the temporary appointment of Mrs. M. Carter, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N.

TABLE I.

Disease	Number of Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	11
Pneumonia	8
Measles	167
Erysipelas	2
Whooping Cough	92
Poliomyelitis	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1

TABLE II.

DISTRIBUTION IN WARDS.

Disease	North	South	Market	Central
Scarlet Fever	6	2	—	3
Pneumonia	4	2	1	1
Measles	74	30	28	35
Erysipelas	1	—	1	—
Whooping Cough	14	33	10	35
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—

TABLE III.
AGE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Ages	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Polio- Myelitis
0-1	—	2	8	2	—	—	—
1-2	—	1	22	19	—	—	—
2-3	1	—	25	19	—	—	—
3-4	1	—	30	8	—	—	—
4-5	1	—	21	10	—	—	—
5-10	6	—	59	20	—	—	—
10-15	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-35	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
35 up	1	4	1	1	2	1	—
Age unknown	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	11	8	167	92	2	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Dispensary premises at Gladstone Street were used throughout the year for the diagnosis and supervision of definite and suspected tubercular cases. Modern methods of diagnosis, also treatment by Artificial Pneumothorax, etc., were available. The clinics were well attended. There is a shortage of beds in sanatoria, which causes long waiting-lists of patients for admission. Under the National Health Service Act the Regional Hospital Board becomes responsible for the administration of the Tuberculosis Service.

After the 31st December, 1948, the Dispensary ceases to be used as a Tuberculosis or Chest Clinic and all such Clinics will in future be conducted at the John Coupland Hospital, Gainsborough, every Tuesday, commencing at 1-30 p.m.

NEW CASES DURING THE YEAR.

Ages.	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0—5	1	—	—	1
5—10	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	2	—	3
25—45	7	2	—	—
45—65	1	—	1	—
Over 65	—	1	—	1
Totals ...	11	5	1	5 = 22

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Year.	Respiratory.	Non-Respiratory.	Total
1948	5	2	7
1947	9	1	10
1946	7	1	8
1945	6	2	8

VENEREAL DISEASES.

These diseases are not notifiable. Their incidence in the district is low but it is an opinion that attendances at V.D. Clinics might be improved by more propaganda on the significance of this subject. A whole-time specialist in these diseases attends Gainsborough, at Bridge Street Clinic, where afternoon and evening sessions are held on Wednesdays.

CANCER.

There was a large number of deaths from Cancer during the year. This does not necessarily mean that there is a greater prevalence of this complaint, because more cases are brought to our notice due to improved facilities for diagnosis. At the neighbouring Scunthorpe Hospital there is a Cancer department which provides the most modern and expert treatment. It is interesting to observe that almost half of the deaths from Cancer occurred in persons who were above the age of seventy years.

Year.	Deaths.
1948	47
1947	27
1946	39
1945	32

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Sanitary Inspector

for the year 1948.

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GAINSBOROUGH.**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my second Annual Report on the work of this Department during 1948. The year has been noteworthy for the fact that an Additional Sanitary Inspector was appointed in order to cope more effectively with the many duties of the Department, more particularly in the field of housing repairs. This involved the placing of the assistant meat inspector on a part-time basis and the transfer of the general assistant to work in connection with rodent control and disinfection. These changes have contributed greatly to the efficiency of the Department, but owing to the emphasis placed upon the repairing of insanitary dwellings, certain duties such as the control of atmospheric pollution, conditions of employment in factories and shops, the inspection of canal boats, etc., did not receive the attention they deserve.

FACTORIES ACT, 1947.

The number of factories on the Register, including 12 bake-houses, is 95. During the year 117 visits were paid to these premises which resulted in 9 offences against the Act being remedied. This work has been facilitated by the ready co-operation which has been extended at all times by H.M. Inspector of Factories for the district.

The following table in the form required by the Ministry of Labour and National Service gives a summary of the work undertaken by the Sanitary Inspectors.

PART I OF THE ACT.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authori- ties	17	36	36	—
(ii) Factories not in- cluded in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	71	73	74	—
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is en- forced by the Local Authority exclud- ing outworkers ...	7	8	—	—
Total ...	95	117	110	—

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of Cases in Which Defects Were Found.				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness.	2	—	—	2	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. .	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventila- tion	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective floor drainage	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	1	—	—	1	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act ...	6	—	3	3	—
Total ...	9	—	3	6	—

SHOPS ACT, 1934.

58 visits were paid during the year to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Act in relation to the health and comfort of shop workers. Two cases only, one involving the provision of extra sanitary accommodation and the other, additional heating and ventilation were dealt with without the necessity for any formal action.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

As far as possible, all premises in which food is stored or prepared for sale were visited with a view to securing compliance with the provisions of the Act, but no formal action was deemed necessary.

This work is becoming increasingly important in view of the growing public concern over the more frequent incidence of food poisoning outbreaks throughout the country and the consequent publicity given in the daily Press. Much valuable work is being done by such bodies as the Central Council for Health Education and the British Tourist and Holidays Board, who, by arranging lectures, publishing leaflets and posters, etc., are endeavouring to raise the hygienic standard of food handlers. The co-operation of local authorities has been sought to further this campaign and as far as possible, every support has been given to it by this Department.

There are 28 premises registered under Section 14 of the Act and 112 visits were paid during the year.

Twelve purveyors of ice cream, including six manufacturers, are on the register and all were regularly visited to secure observance of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

I am indebted to Mr. C. C. Orwin, County Health Inspector for supplying the following details of samples taken in the district by the County Council as Food and Drugs Authority under the Act.

Name of Sample.	Number obtained.	Number adulterated or not up to standard.
Milk	30	1
Pepper	1	—
Malted Milk	1	—
Malt Vinegar	1	—
Sponge Mixture	1	—
Margarine	2	—
Damson Jam	1	—
Barley Flour	1	—
Macaroni	1	—
Ground Ginger	1	—
Non-brewed Vinegar ...	1	—
Orange Squash	1	—
Dried Eggs	1	—
Custard Powder	1	—
Butter	1	—
Coffee	1	—
Fish Paste	1	—
Drugs	2	—
Total ...	49	1

The milk sample reported against contained 4% added water and a warning letter was sent to the producer.

COWSHEDS, DAIRIES and MILK SUPPLY.

The number of Cowkeepers is 8, the number of Cowsheds 16, and the approximate number of Milch Cows is 90.

On the Register of Dairies are 13 Purveyors and 4 Dairymen; 6 Purveyors and 2 Dairymen residing outside the District. 21 small shops also retail sterilised milk brought into the Town by the Bottlers. 103 visits were paid to the premises.

During the year, 6 reports on the condition of "Accredited" milk were received from the County Sanitary Inspector, four of which were reported upon as satisfactory.

The table which follows gives a complete analysis of tests applied to 136 samples of milk taken by this Department during the year. It will be observed that only 9% of ungraded milks passed both tests whilst milk pasteurised locally came through with the excellent record of 100% and so provided the only cause for satisfaction after the year's work. It is most interesting to observe from the table that the pass rate progressively increases with the designated milks and so may serve as a pointer to the solution of this troublesome problem. No doubt, when compulsory powers under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, are exercised by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in October of next year, the question of designation will take a prominent place in any scheme of improving the quality of milk supplied to the public.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK 1948

Area Produced	Retailer	Grade	$\frac{1}{2}$ Hour Methylene Blue Test		Methylene Blue Test		B. Coli		Phosphatase Test		Percentage Satisfying Both Tests
			Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed	
Urban & Rural	Urban Rural	Pasteurised	17	0	—	—	—	—	17	0	76 %
			8	8	—	—	—	—	14	2	
Rural Urban	Rural Urban	Accredited (Not sold as such)	—	—	1	2	2	1	—	—	43 %
			—	—	1	1	2	0	—	—	
Urban Rural Rural	Urban Urban Rural	Ungraded	—	—	10	28	17	21	—	—	9 %
			—	—	6	4	4	6	—	—	
			—	—	24	26	20	30	—	—	
TOTAL			25	8	42	61	45	58	31	2	36 %
			76 %		41 %		44 %		94 %		

MEAT, FOODS and SLAUGHTERHOUSE INSPECTION.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excl'd'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed.....	815	205	690	2214	190
Number inspected	815	205	690	2214	190
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i>					
Whole Carcases con- demned	5	10	1	21	6
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	86	51	—	37	14
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	11.16	29.75	0.15	2.62	10.52
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole Carcases con- demned	5	16	—	—	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	154	74	—	—	46
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	19.51	43.89	—	—	26.31

As a result of staff reorganisation, considerably more time was spent at the Ministry of Food Regional Abattoir by the Inspectors particularly when, as on several occasions, slaughtering took place for other towns at the week-end. A similar effect was produced by the operation of the Ministry of Food's Memorandum 62b Foods, which imposed routine inspection of all sheep carcasses for Caseous Lymphadenitis. At the request of the Ministry, all beef carcasses were inspected in closer detail for the presence of *Cysticercus Bovis* but no evidence of this infestation was discovered.

No veterinary ante-mortem inspection of animals is undertaken.

No action was necessary in regard to meat offered for sale by retail.

Foodstuffs condemned during the year were:—

MEAT.

21	Beast carcasses and all offals	Tuberculosis
8	Beast fore quarters	Tuberculosis
57	Beast heads	Tuberculosis
62	Beast livers	Tuberculosis
93	Beast lungs	Tuberculosis
20	Cows udders	Tuberculosis
38	Beast offal (sets)	Tuberculosis
13	Beast carcasses and all offals	Dropsy
1	Beast carcass and all offal	Asphyxia
1	Beast carcass and all offal	Septic peritonitis
4	Beast heads	Actinomycosis
115	Beast livers	Distoma hepaticum
2	Beast livers	Abscesses
1	Beast liver	Hepatitis
4	Beast lungs	Distoma hepaticum
1	Beast lungs	Abscesses
1	Beast lungs	Pneumonia
12	Cow udders	Mastitis
4	Sheep carcasses and all offals	Putrefaction
14	Sheep carcasses and all offals	Dropsy
1	Sheep carcass and all offal	Immaturity
2	Sheep carcasses and all offals	Fever
17	Sheep plucks	Strongylus rufescens
31	Sheep livers	Strongylus rufescens
1	Sheep leg	Caseous lymphadenitis
4	Pig carcasses and all offals	Tuberculosis
13	Pig plucks	Tuberculosis
26	Pig lungs	Tuberculosis
6	Pig heads	Tuberculosis
1	Pig liver	Tuberculosis
1	Pig carcass and all offal	Immaturity
1	Pig carcass and all offal	Jaundice
5	Pig carcasses and all offals	Erysipelas
7	Pig lungs	Pleurisy
1	Calf carcass and all offal	Inflammation
121	lbs. Pork	Bruising
509	lbs. Beef	Bruising
100	lbs. Beef	Bone taint

OTHER FOODSTUFFS.

40	tins assorted sizes Preserved Meats.
532	tins assorted sizes Milk.
347	tins assorted sizes Vegetables.
549	tins assorted sizes Preserves.
317	tins assorted size Fish.
151	tins assorted sizes Soup.
196	lbs. Fresh Fish.
14	stones Flour.
78	lbs. Cheese.
87	lbs. Bacon.
3	lbs. Sugar.
17½	lbs. Sausage.
90	lbs. Dates.
78	jars assorted Pickles.
89	tins Baked Beans.
13	tins Dried Egg.
96	fresh Eggs.
206	pkts. Breakfast Cereals.
97½	lbs. Biscuits.
70	tins assorted Fruits.
75	tins Meat and Fish Paste.
8	doz. Fish Cakes.
19	lbs. Butter.
5	lbs. Fat.
80	lbs. Sweets.
3	lbs. Golden Syrup.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The number on the register is four. Eleven visits were paid to these premises during the year and conditions found to be such that no formal action was deemed necessary. The future use of premises on the bombed site as a hide and skin store is contingent upon development permitted under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The collection of house refuse is carried out by two seven cubic yard "Karrier Bantam" side loading vehicles and by one three cubic yard side loading "Karrier Colt" working on the "continuous" system. Mechanical faults in two of the vehicles which were due for replacement caused considerable delay in collection and overtime had to be worked in order to restore the situation to normal, the collection interval varying from 10 to 12 days.

No appreciable reduction in the collection interval was anticipated owing to the development of the new housing estates whose layout does not lend itself to speedy collection due to the longer carry of bin to vehicle.

With a view to effecting an improvement in this service, demonstrations of different types of vehicle were held before your Health Committee, who recommended that two new "Dennis" 10 cubic yard side loading vehicles be purchased. Delivery of these vehicles could not be effected during the year due to the Government drive for increased exports.

CONTROLLED TIPPING OF REFUSE.

The amount of refuse dealt with at the tips was, for the year ending 31st March estimated to be 6,923 tons.

Tipping alongside the railway embankment near the East Trent junction was discontinued in April at the request of the District Engineer to the Railway Executive and consequently all refuse was diverted to the Humble Carr Lane tip.

As this inevitably shortened the anticipated life of the tip, search was immediately made for an alternative site and towards the end of the year, negotiations had been opened with the River Trent Catchment Board for a site adjoining the main Retford road.

Considerable inconvenience to the tip attendants was caused during the year by unauthorised members of the public sorting over refuse deposited at the tip and in an attempt to stamp out this undesirable practice, convictions were obtained in the local Magistrates Court against four offenders under Section 76 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

SALVAGE.

During the year 250 tons of waste paper, 46 tons of metal and 16 tons of kitchen waste were collected by the Department which, together with other items, realised a total value of £1,925.

Support was given by the Council to the competition organised by the Waste Paper Recovery Association during the months of March, April and May which resulted in over 89 tons being collected, an increase of 60% over the corresponding period of the previous year. This highly creditable result was largely due to the publicity so willingly given by the Press, cinemas, tradesmen and voluntary organisations throughout the town.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Total cost of Collection and Disposal of the Town's Refuse
is as follows:—

	£ s d			
Refuse Collection and Disposal	8108	14 5
Revenue....	2075	10 1
Nett Cost	6033	4 4

COLLECTION & DISPOSAL COSTS												
Pop.	No. of Weekly Collections		Method of Collection	Method of Disposal	Total Cost	Total Tons (Est.)	No. of Houses	Cost per Ton (Est.)	Cost per House	Cost per 1000 Houses	Cost per Head of Population	Cost 1000 Head of Population
	House	Trade										
17,250	1	1	3 Side Loading Karrier Motors	Controlled Tip	£6,033	6,923	5,201	17.43s.	£1.16	£1,160	7s.	£350

Rate Represented for Collection and Disposal 16.271d.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

43 visits were paid to premises during the year and 37 rooms were disinfected following the occurrence of infectious disease including 24 after Tuberculosis.

Disinfection of bedding is carried out at "Oakdene" Hostel for the aged and chronic sick.

HOUSING.

By far the greater proportion of the work of the Department during the year was devoted to this subject, 987 visits being paid to 347 houses, 215 of which were repaired by the owners without recourse to any formal action. Application was made to the Health Committee for permission to serve Abatement Notices in 60 cases under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, 37 of which were complied with by the end of the year.

3 cases referred to the Committee for attention under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, could not be completed before the end of the year.

After inspection along with your Surveyor, 4 houses were considered to be too dangerous for occupation and the premises vacated, the tenants finding other accommodation.

The raising of the financial limit by which work could be done without licence up to £100 from the 1st July together with the Order excluding from control certain materials such as bricks and sanitary ware, had a markedly improved effect on the number of housing defects which were remedied although certain essential items such as slates caused difficulties at times by reason of their scarcity.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Drains cleansed or repaired	18
Drains constructed	9
Drain Ventilators fixed or repaired	5
Inspection Chambers rebuilt	2
Water Closets cleansed or repaired	7
Water Closet structures repaired	10
Water Closet structures erected	6
Yard Gullies connected to drain	6
Sink Waste Pipes repaired or renewed	15
New Sinks provided	25
Portable Dustbins provided	46
Yard Pavements, etc., repaired	20
Roofs repaired	85
Floors repaired	43
Rain water pipes and eaves gutters repaired	60

Damp courses inserted	1
Plaster of walls and ceilings repaired	178
Firegrates repaired, re-set or renewed	66
Windows, Skylights repaired	37
Wash-house structures repaired	12
Coppers re-set, repaired or provided	8
Chimneys repaired or pointed	16
External Walls pointed, repaired, etc.	41
Coal Stores erected or repaired	4
Stairs repaired or renewed, handrails fixed	6
Skirtings fixed	3
Doors repaired	32
W.C. Pans replaced	23
W.C. Flushing Cisterns repaired	4
	<hr/>
	788

Clearance of unfit cottage property remains an urgent need but such action must be deferred until alternative accommodation is provided for the tenants. Meanwhile, the continued patching up required to maintain such premises in a reasonably weatherproof condition over the past ten years, in addition to imposing an unduly heavy burden on the owners diverted far too great a proportion of the Department's time from other essential public health duties.

NEW BUILDINGS.

During the year, 101 permanent Houses were erected for the Council, 34 on the Whites Wood Lane No. 2 Site and 67 on the Corringham Road Site.

WATER CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There has been very little change in this direction, and there are still 9 pail closets at outlying premises. A few trough closets remain in the older parts of the Town.

RODENT CONTROL.

With the adoption by the Council in August of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' scheme for rodent control, this work was placed for the first time on a systematic basis by designating an operator to undertake the treatment of rat and mice infestations throughout the area. In order to comply with the conditions imposed by the Ministry, the periodic treatment of the Council's refuse tips and sewers was undertaken and for the latter purpose, the town was divided into six areas containing a total of 309 manholes.

530 visits were paid to premises during the year which resulted in a total of 106 infestations being satisfactorily dealt with.

INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

Houses—Public Health Acts. Visits	987
Complaints Investigated	347
Visits to Property under Notice	640
Common Lodging Houses	13
Factories—Mechanical Power	36
Factories—No Mechanical Power	73
Workplaces	8
Infectious Disease Cases	37
New Buildings	53
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	530
Drainage Work	94
Shops Act	58
Bakehouses	23
Fried Fish Shops	8
Other Food Preparation	112
Wet Fish Shops	11
Butchers Shops	24
Markets	55
Slaughterhouses	297
Offensive Trades	11
Ice Cream Shops	24
Dairies and Milk Shops	103
Cowsheds	32
Stables and Garages	2
Verminous Houses	16
Destructor and Tip	57
Refuse Collection	46
Marine Stores	2
Interviews with Owners	164
Miscellaneous	56
Milk Samples	136
Water Samples	228
Unsound Food	156
Civil Building Control	481
Overcrowding	14
Total	4,934

WATER SUPPLY.

(i) Water is obtained from three boreholes at the Council's waterworks and stored in two open reservoirs with an estimated total capacity of three days' normal demand. Two water towers with a total capacity of 36,500 gallons are also provided for gravity feeding to the higher levels of the town.

Repairs to the No. 3 borehole pump, which occasioned the shutting off on 22nd December, 1947, of all piped supplies from midnight to 6 a.m. each day, with the exception of an area of

the town served by arrangement with the Rural District Council, were completed on 21st May, since when the supply has been entirely satisfactory in quantity.

(ii) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

During the year, 228 samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination both before and after chlorination. Results are reported upon in accordance with the Ministry of Health's suggested classification.

RAW WATER.

Class 1—Highly Satisfactory	38	100%
Total	38	

WATER GOING INTO SUPPLY.

Class 1—Highly Satisfactory	141	74%
Class 2—Satisfactory	13	7%
Class 3—Suspicious	8	4%
Class 4—Unsatisfactory	28	15%
Total	190	

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

A sample taken on April 20th from the Ropery Road sampling tap was reported upon as follows:—

“The Oxygen absorbed, Ammoniacal and Albuminoid Nitrogen figures are very low showing the water to be of a high degree of organic purity. The water is hard, about half the hardness being temporary in character.”

On the 17th November, a sample was taken from the new reservoir and reported upon as follows:—

“Apart from the presence of nitrites (a sure indication of under-chlorination) there is little chemical evidence of organic pollution.”

(iii) As the water has a total hardness of 36 per 100,000 parts and a pH value of 7.7, the possibility of the water having any plumbo-solvent action is extremely remote.

(iv) In order to provide more effective control of chlorine dosage, the Council decided to install an automatic recording chlorinating device to replace the present apparatus erected as an emergency measure at the outbreak of war, but it was not found possible to carry out this work before the end of the year.

(v) Number of dwelling houses supplied from public water Mains direct	4807
Number of dwelling houses supplied by means of Standpipes	394

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE.

No new works of sewage disposal were undertaken during the year.

188 yards of sewers and 345 yards of drains were laid on the Whites Wood Lane No. 3 site.

BUILDING CONTROL.

On the 1st August, 1945, the Council were authorised under Defence Regulation 56A to grant licences within specified limits, which duty was delegated to your Sanitary Inspector.

During the year, 235 licences to the total value of £10,522 were issued by this Department and in addition, 38 applications made to the Regional Office of the Ministry for licences to a total value of £11,931 were granted after submission of my detailed report and observations in each case.

From the 1st July, the Control of Buildings (No. 11) Order raised the financial limit by which work may be carried out on any property without a licence from £10 to £100 and the Control of Buildings (No. 12) Order, which came into operation on the 1st November, raised the free limit to £1,000 in respect of certain classes of buildings known as "designated" buildings. As a result of these changes, the Council are no longer responsible for the licensing of work other than housing, such applications being dealt with by the Ministry of Works.

The W.B.A. Priority Scheme for Materials ceased to have effect on the 1st November, by which time 264 certificates had been issued to enable local builders to acquire supplies of essential materials.

In concluding my report, I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their unstinted co-operation, to the Medical Officer of Health for his invaluable help at all times and to the Additional Sanitary Inspector, Mr. G. F. Sixsmith and Health Department staff for their ready and willing assistance.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN CARTER.



