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**Contributors**

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BOROUGH OF GODALMING.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health  
for 1949

TOGETHER WITH THAT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector





# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

for 1949.

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*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Godalming.*

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1949.

The Death Rate is unfortunately higher than that of the Country as a whole, though lower than that of the small towns. It is also higher than that of last year. As, however, 68.13% of the deaths were in persons over 65, this does not indicate any deleterious elements in the health of Godalming.

The Birth Rate is unfortunately still lower and is undoubtedly due to family limitations due to lack of housing and economic circumstances, but fortunately the infantile mortality is extremely low, indicating that as many babies as possible are saved.

Notifiable infectious diseases are very low, only pneumonia and measles being prevalent. The latter was generally high in incidence on the whole.

Therefore the health of the Borough can be said to be extremely satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

F. A. BELAM, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

# PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

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## Medical Officer of Health :

F. A. BELAM, T.D., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.I.

## Chief Sanitary Inspector :

P. A. WARNER, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.Assn.

## Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

F. W. CULVER, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., C.Inst.Hsg.

## Clerks :

Miss E. K. GILBERT, A.C.C.S

Miss J. STEARNE (appointed 28th February, 1949).

(Both Inspectors also hold the Certificate of the  
Royal Sanitary Institute in  
Meat and Other Foods Inspection.)

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## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area : 2,393 acres.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate, mid-year 1949) :  
14,770.

Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1949), according to  
rate books : 4,038.

Rateable value : £131,192.

Sum represented by a penny rate, 1st April, 1949 : £510.15.9.



## Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births—				
Total ...	184	105	79	{ Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popula- tion, 12.45.
Legitimate ...	176	102	74	
Illegitimate ...	8	3	5	
Still Births—				
Legitimate ...	9	4	5	{ Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 46.63. Still-birth Rate per 1,000 population, 0.60.
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	
Deaths ...	182	89	93	{ Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popula- tion, 12.32.

Deaths from Puerperal causes : Nil.

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	21.73
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	22.72
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	29
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ...	Nil

The Birth Rate for 1949 again shews a fall, and it is a very considerable drop from 15.29 in 1948 to 12.45 for 1949. It is very much lower than the birth rates of England and Wales and the larger and smaller towns. The population has certainly fallen but only by 70 persons, quite insufficient to account for such a low figure. It would appear that this fall is associated with that generally ascribed to deliberate family limitation, this due to lack of houses and economic conditions. It is certainly true that when a young couple does obtain separate accommodation, house or flat, a child frequently appears in due course. So we must persevere with our housing programme if we want to keep up the population of the Borough.

**Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality in the Year 1949. Provisional Figures.**

England & Wales, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 148 Smaller Towns.	Rate per 1,000 Population		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population									Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still-births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	16.7	0.39	11.7	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	0.15	—	3.0	32
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	18.7	0.47	12.5	—	—	—	—	0.02	—	0.15	—	3.8	37
148 Smaller Towns (Resid't Populat'ns 25,000 to 50,000— 1931 Census) ...	18.0	0.40	11.6	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	0.14	—	2.4	30
London ...	18.5	0.37	12.2	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	0.11	—	1.7	29
GODALMING ...	12.45	0.60	12.32	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.13	—	—	22.72

The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales are as follows :

per 1,000	Total Births	... Puerperal Sepsis—0.11	Others—0.71	Total 0.82
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# Godalming Deaths in 1949.

Cause of Death	Age at Death												Total	R.G. Total				
	Under 1		1-2		2-5		5-15		15-25		25-45				45-65		65&over	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.			M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis, Lungs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cancer of Mouth and Throat (M.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Uterus (F.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cancer of Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cancer of all other sites	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Heart Diseases—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Coronary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Circulatory Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Digestive Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Congenital Malformation,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Birth Injury or Infant Disease	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Road Traffic Accident	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other violent deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3	5	23	18	58	66	89 91 93	



The Death Rate is unfortunately up, and though above that of the country as a whole is below that of the larger towns and almost equal to that of the smaller towns. The increased deaths are to be found ascribed to heart disease and cancer. But a glance at the age of death shews that, of over 182 deaths, 124 were over 65. This does not indicate any unhealthy condition in the district. Forty-one persons were over 80 and nine over 90 at death.

Infantile Mortality was low, much below that of 1948 and very considerably lower than the figures for the country as a whole, or the towns. This reflects very great credit on the mothers and their medical and nursing care, as on the health visitors who teach them child care. Only four infants died, three male and one female. Of these, three died of congenital defects at 14 hours, 1 day and 4 days, and one from pneumonia at 6 months. This is especially satisfactory in view of the falling birth rate, which makes it all the more important to save as many infant lives as possible.

### **Welfare of Old People.**

Publication of the Ministry of Health Circular 11/50 of the 23rd January, 1950, calls attention officially to the Welfare of the Aged. Such welfare can be attended to officially by implementing the provisions of the National Assistance Act or by supplementing the funds of voluntary organisations.

In Godalming the following establishments for care of the aged have been dealt with in various ways:—

(1) **Housing.** The Corporation has provided thirty bungalows and six houses for occupation by old people; the last ten of the bungalows were included in the most recent housing programme. This provision is most valuable as it gives the old people a house they can manage, relieves overcrowding in other houses and leaves them for young persons with children.

The bungalows are adjacent to and form part of the Housing Estates so that the old folk are not ostracised. Periodic inspections can be paid by health visitors or by voluntary visitors.

(2) **Provision of Meals.** The W.V.S. have an excellent "Meals on Wheels" Service which provides a hot meal at an economic cost. In Godalming forty old people were supplied



with seventy meals per week at 1/3d. per meal. This charge, however, is high, and steps should be taken for the Council to reimburse part of the cost, as in other places. In Guildford, the old people pay 6d. and the Council 10d. per meal.

(3) **Rest Rooms.** Such provision is most useful. Periodicals and games are provided and the old people can get together. Such places in the centre of the town serve a useful purpose. Guildford has several of these rest rooms. Godalming has none, but the members of the two Old People's Social Clubs meet for social activities once weekly.

(4) **Hostels.** Provision of these hostels can be made directly by the Surrey County Council or by private enterprise. The Surrey County Council already has a scheme for a number of these hostels. In Godalming there are two almshouses (Wyatts and Llanaway Cottages) that serve this purpose but the provision is small. In Wyatts, there is provision for ten old men, and in Llanaway Cottages, four aged ladies.

(5) **Visits.** It is very useful to establish a system of voluntary visitors who call on the old folk to have a chat and see that they are comfortable and happy. There is an excellent organisation of this kind in Guildford, and such an Establishment in Godalming should be seriously considered. Health Visitors of the Surrey County Council can also look in on the old folk when they know of their existence. It is most essential that the welfare of all old folks should be known so that they can receive the care and attention to which their lives of previous service entitles them.

## **General Provision of Health Services for the Area.**

(a) **Laboratory Facilities.** All pathological work is done for the Borough at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford. During 1949 the following work was done: 13 swabs for diphtheria and 3 for haemolytic streptococci. Water samples are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. Certain laboratory work was also carried out for the County Council from their maternity clinics: 168 specimens of blood for haemoglobin, grouping and rhesus factor estimation being sent during the year.

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.** The Godalming Division of the British Red Cross Society now carry out this work on behalf



of the County Council, using two full time drivers, and attendants acting in a voluntary capacity being members of the Division. Infectious cases are still removed by the hospital ambulances of Ottershaw or Farnham Isolation Hospitals.

Work done by the British Red Cross Society personnel and ambulances was as follows:—

Number of calls (including 75 accidents) ... ..	1,295
Number of miles travelled ... ..	30,785
Voluntary hours of duty (including cinemas, fetes, etc.) ... ..	1,918

(c) **Nursing in the Home.** Three midwives receiving financial aid from the County Council practise in the Borough.

The nurses of the Godalming Nursing and Child Welfare Association carried out the following work during 1949:—

Number of District Cases ... ..	490
Number of District Visits ... ..	5,910
Number of Midwifery Cases ... ..	40
Number of Maternity Cases (with Doctor) ... ..	9
Number of Midwifery and Maternity Visits ... ..	772
Number of Ante-Natal Visits ... ..	308
Number of Casual Visits ... ..	266

(Visits are entered as casual when no actual nursing is done.)

(d) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—The Surrey County Council Clinics are as follows:—

#### AT CHURCH ROOM, GODALMING.

##### Maternity and Child Welfare—

Dental Clinic: Mondays, 10–12 and 2–4 p.m. Thursdays, 10–12 noon and 2–4 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10–12 noon.

Child Welfare Centre: Wednesdays and Fridays, 2–4 p.m.

##### School Treatment Centres—

General Medical Clinics: Every Friday, 10 a.m.

Eye Clinic: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 2–4 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Fridays (School children), 10 a.m.

Wednesdays and Fridays (Children 1–5 years), 2–4 p.m.

AT ST. MARK'S HALL, Ockford Ridge, Godalming.  
Welfare Clinic: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2-4 p.m.

AT MILFORD SANATORIUM.  
Tuberculosis Dispensary: 1st and 3rd Fridays, 2-5 p.m.

AT SOUTH WEST METROPOLITAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD  
CHEST CLINIC,  
Tower House, 64, Epsom Road, Guildford.  
Tuberculosis Dispensary:  
Mondays, 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
Wednesdays, 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.  
All cases seen by appointment.

AT ROYAL SURREY COUNTY HOSPITAL, GUILDFORD.  
Venereal Disease:  
Males: Tuesdays and Fridays, 5 to 7 p.m.  
Females: Mondays, 2 to 7 p.m.; Thursdays, 9.30 to 11 a.m.

#### (e) Hospital Provision.

(1) The Royal Surrey County Hospital at Guildford offers 229 beds. An average of 203 beds were occupied daily throughout the year. 15,566 out-patients made 97,089 attendances. The Hospital carries a staff embracing specialists in all branches of medicine and surgery, including radiology and physiotherapy.

(2) St. Luke's Hospital offers 404 beds which include 58 maternity beds and 62 maternity cots. Of these beds, 54 are reserved for patients treated by radiotherapy, the rest are devoted to general surgery and gynaecology, paediatrics, ear, nose and throat, eyes neurology, dermatology and geriatrics.

(3) St. Thomas' Hospital, Hydestile, Godalming. This hospital has only 106 beds at present and most of the patients come from London, although the admission list does include a reasonable proportion of patients from Godalming.

There is not a whole time emergency service for road casualties and surgical or medical emergencies, although



emergency cases are admitted on occasion at the particular request of the doctor as a matter of urgency.

(f) **Maternity and Nursing Homes.**

Only one registered Nursing Home is now taking patients. This is the Mount Alvernia Nursing Home of the Franciscan Sisters and it offers 15 beds for all purposes. It has been exempted from the provisions of the National Health Service Act.

**Mass Radiography.** The South West Metropolitan Regional Mass Radiography Unit visited Godalming from 27th June to 8th July, 1949, and during this time examined the following:

Sex.	Total Attendances.	Number Re-called.	Number seen by Unit Doctor.
Males	861	38	15
Females	943	52	22

Dr. Waters, the Medical Director of the Unit, has kindly given me particulars of the abnormalities found. These revealed:

Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Active: 2 males, 1 female;  
Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Inactive: 18 males, 29 females;

but in addition other abnormalities of a non-tuberculous nature were also revealed, of which the subjoined Table is a description:—

	Male.	Female.
Congenital abnormalities of bony thorax and lungs	5	6
Chronic bronchitis and emphysema	4	2
Bronchiectasis	1	4
Pneumokoniosis	1	—
Obliterated cost-phrenic angle and basal pleural changes	9	9
Intrathoracic new growth	—	1
Cardiovascular lesions—congenital	1	2
Cardiovascular lesions—acquired (e.g., rheumatic heart disease)	3	3
Acquired conditions of the ribs (e.g., old rib resection and old rib fractures)	6	1
Cases awaiting final diagnosis	2	1

It is most useful to the Doctors to have this kind of specialist assistance with regard to their cases and all Doctors

were circularised to send for X-ray examination any patients whose conditions of heart and lungs were causing them uncertainty.

I am glad to be able to add that the Mass Radiography Unit will be visiting Godalming in 1950.

## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

**Infectious Diseases.** Cases are still received by the Otter-shaw and Farnham Isolation Hospitals. Admissions are as shewn in the table:—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ... ..	5	4	—
Pneumonia ... ..	26	3	7
Whooping Cough ... ..	7	1	—
Measles ... ..	26	1	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	—	—
	<hr/> 67 <hr/>	<hr/> 10 <hr/>	<hr/> 7 <hr/>

It will be noted that the incidence of infectious disease during 1949 was very low. Only pneumonia and measles were at all prevalent and both these diseases were endemic, though measles incidence generally increases to epidemic proportions every two years. Last year 59 cases were notified, 60 in 1947 and 4 in 1946. No prophylactic is available for this disease upon which real reliance can be placed.

Whooping cough, after appearing in epidemic numbers in 1948, dropped down to 7 notifications. All susceptible children had presumably either suffered from the disease or obtained natural immunity.

One case of poliomyelitis was notified: a girl of four years who was treated in Farnham Isolation Hospital and recovered satisfactorily.



### Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

Disease		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over
Scarlet Fever	...	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	1	—	2	1	—	6	1	—	1	2	3	9
Whooping Cough	...	—	—	—	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	1	2	4	3	2	12	—	1	1	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Sonne Dysentery	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	...	2	2	6	8	4	25	2	1	3	3	9

### Summary of Notifications of Cases and Contacts of Infectious Disease received from Schools.

Disease				Total	Central	Council, Bridge Rd., Jun. Mixed & Infants	Moss Lane C. of E. Girls and Infants	Busbridge	Farncombe, George Road	County	St. John St. Jun. Mixed & Infants
Measles	...	...	...	6	1	—	1	2	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	8	1	—	1	4	1	—	1
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	79	1	11	9	—	53	—	5
Mumps	...	...	...	12	1	—	4	2	3	2	—
Scabies	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Jaundice	...	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Total	...	...	...	108	4	11	15	9	60	2	7

Scarlet Fever occasioned no trouble; of five isolated cases four were admitted to hospital.

Again no case of diphtheria was notified.

Immunisation against diphtheria was continued throughout the year. 2,779 children were immunised—an increase of 407 over the figure in 1948. This gives a percentage of 87.14 per cent. of Godalming children protected from the disease.

In addition, 1,764 children were re-immunised, 100 more than in 1948.

This is extremely satisfactory and indicates the readiness with which the intelligent population of Godalming accept this excellent measure of protection for their children.

### Diphtheria Immunisation Statistics.

Age at 31st December 1949 ...	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
<i>i.e.</i> , born in year	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944-40	1939-35	
Number immunised ...	11	183	159	198	153	917	1158	2779
Estimated mid-year population, 1949 ...			1131			2058		3189
Number and percentage immunised .....			704			*2075		2779
			67.47%			100%		87.14%
Number re-immunised, 1946-1948 ...		...	1544	} 1764				
Number re-immunised, 1949 ...		...	220					

\* The excess number of children immunised over the estimated population is due to the inclusion of out-district children attending and immunised at Godalming Schools.

**Vaccination.** 179 births were notified from 1st January to 31st December, 1949. 64 children born in 1949 were vaccinated. Naturally those born towards the end of the year could not be due for vaccination until 1950, but as the same thing would apply to the children born in the last three months of 1948, it would not seem unreasonable to take the figure as it stands and say that roughly only one-third of the infants are now being vaccinated. Actual vaccinations carried out during 1949 at home, clinic and surgery were 134, including 34 children born in 1948 and 64 in 1949.

There is unquestionably a considerable drop in infantile vaccination in spite of home and clinic propaganda by the County Health Visitors. The fall is probably due to two chief causes: (1) The Vaccinating Officer no longer arrives at the home prepared to vaccinate then and there; (2) The opposition of the father, probably due to his service experience.

It is impossible to foretell what the result will be, but it does mean that the greatest care must be taken by every Medical Officer of Health to deal immediately, and as drastically as he is allowed, with every known smallpox contact so that an unprotected community may not fall victim to an outbreak of smallpox.

Vaccination of all contacts will have to be immediate and thorough. If this is done, all may yet be well.



**Tuberculosis.** There were 107 cases of this disease on the register at the end of the year. One less death was recorded.

More new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis among females were notified (ten as against five).

There were in all seventeen new pulmonary cases (including six transferred to Godalming from other areas), and two non-pulmonary (both transfers). Four patients were removed from the register as recovered.

### Tuberculosis : New Cases and Mortality during 1949.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES					DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
1-5	—	1	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	1	1	—	1*	...	—	—	—	—
20-25	2	2†	—	—	...	2	—	—	—
25-35	1*	4	—	—	...	—	2	—	—
35-45	2†	1*	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
45-55	—	—	—	—	...	2	—	—	—
55-65	1	1	—	—	...	1	—	1	—
65 and over	—	—	—	1*	...	—	—	1	1
	7	10	—	2		5	2	2	1

\*Transfer. †Including 1 Transfer.

Although the incidence of tuberculosis in Godalming is not high it remains fairly constant, and though two of the female pulmonary cases were transfers from other areas, still three more notifications of resident cases among females were received than in 1948.

Shortage of hospital accommodation for acute cases is still the chief difficulty and acts as a brake upon preventive control of the disease. The patient remains in his house among his relatives, whom he may infect the more readily as he has not had the benefit of the training in preventive measures only obtainable in a Sanatorium. Although the Visiting Tuberculosis Health Visitor does her best in this respect, practice not precept carries most weight.

# Sanitary Inspector's Report

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## Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

### Summary of Routine and other Inspection Work carried out.

#### ROUTINE INSPECTIONS MADE.

Housing Inspections and Re-inspections (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ... ..	1,164
Nuisances, Complaints, Advisory Visits, etc. ... ..	1,173
Inspections of—	
Drainage to Houses, including Tests ... ..	191
Meat Inspections ... ..	103
Bakehouses ... ..	98
Dairies, Cowsheds, Milk-shops and Milk-stores ...	92
Factories, Work-places and Outworkers' Premises	199
Food Shops and places where food is prepared and stored ... ..	340
Ice Cream Premises ... ..	21
Foodstuffs for condemnation ... ..	127
Offensive Trades Premises ... ..	15
Premises, reference Provision of Dustbins ...	136
Rat-infested Premises ... ..	26
Public and Private Conveniences ... ..	49
Council's Hostels ... ..	1
Investigations under—	
Shops and Young Persons Employment Acts ...	175
Petroleum and Carbide Acts... ..	121
Infectious Disease Notifications and Prevention Acts (including Disinfections) ... ..	49
Part IV, Housing Act, 1936 (Overcrowding) ...	30
Public Health Act, 1936 (Smoke Abatement) ...	7
Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919 (involving inspection, baiting and re-inspection of 102 sewer manholes) ... ..	16
Sampling of—	
Water Supplies ... ..	8
Milk Supplies ... ..	13
	<hr/>
	4,054
	<hr/>



## NOTICES SERVED.

Statutory Notices	...	...	40
Informal Notices	...	...	498
Total Notices served	...	...	538
Complied with	...	...	497
Not complied with at 31.12.49			41

**Factories Act, 1937.**

(Information required by the Secretary of State.)

## 1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND OTHER PREMISES UNDER THE ACT.

Premises.	Inspection.	Number of Written Notices.	Occup. Pros.
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	61	2	—
Factories without Mechanical Power...	109	—	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises) ...	29	2	—
(Electrical Stations should be reckoned as Factories.)			
	199	4	—

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects		Ref'd by H.M. Inspec- tor.	No. of defects in respect of which prose- cutions were instituted.
	Found.	R'died.		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	1	1	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)				
Insufficient ...	5	6	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
*Other Offences ...	2	2	—	—
	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 10	<hr/> —	<hr/> —

(\*Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)

## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

## WATER SUPPLY.

New main extensions carried out during 1949 were:—

Godalming Borough:

508 yards of 3in. to improve supply in the Westbrook area.

1,885 yards of 4in. and 199 yards of 6in. for Godalming Corporation's Aarons Hill Housing Estate.

475 yards of 3in. for Godalming Corporation development site at Broadwater.

127 yards of 3in. to Quarry Hill to improve supply and new houses.

78 yards of 3in. to improve supply to the Wharf.



#### Hambledon Rural District:

2,625 yards of 4in. in new supply to Selhurst Common.

1,000 yards of 4in. and 160 yards of 3in. to new housing site at Milford Lodge Estate for Hambledon Rural District Council.

677 yards of 4in. at Sandhills, Witley, to improve the supply.

58 yards of 4in. to houses at New Road, Witley.

#### Guildford Rural District:

742 yards of 9in. and 700 yards of 6in. new distribution mains from new Priors Field Road Water Tower for Godalming Corporation; and

2,419 yards of 8in. new pumping main to this Tower.

The water supply had been satisfactory throughout the water area, both as regards quality and quantity.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations of treated and untreated water are made quarterly from samples taken by the Sanitary Inspector. These proved to be in all respects satisfactory for public supply.

Bacteriological examinations have also been made of samples obtained from various premises within the water supply area, which are supplied from the various service reservoirs. These were taken by the Water Department; in addition four reports were received from the Hambledon Rural District Council and six from Guildford Rural District Council on samples taken from piped supplies in their area—all of which were of satisfactory bacterial purity. No form of contamination of supplies was experienced during the year.

The number of dwelling houses supplied direct from the Corporation mains in the water supply area is 6,818 and the estimated population supplied with water is 26,466. Number of houses supplied by standpipe 15, with a population of 53.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The sewer to link up Milford and Witley and the Sanatoria with the Godalming Sewerage System commenced in 1948 and was substantially complete by the end of the year. No actual flow was received into the sewer during the year but it is anticipated that live connection will be made very early in 1950.

The disposal of sewage at the Unstead Works by land treatment and filtration continues to be carried out.



## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No complaints of pollution of the River Wey were received and no pollution detected during the year.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of cesspools and pail closets remaining in the Borough are as follows:—

Cesspools draining houses: 31 (23 no sewers available).  
Pail closets attached to cottages: 19 (15 no sewers available).

Arrangements for emptying cesspools devolve upon occupiers of premises, who have to rely upon the adjoining Rural District Councils for this service, as Godalming does not possess a cesspool emptier.

An inspection of the sanitary accommodation in all Schools was made early in the year.

With one exception, the seven 'County' schools were found to be below the standard laid down in "The Regulations Prescribing Standards for School Premises, 1945."

The three voluntary schools for juniors and infants were considered to be satisfactorily equipped, and in one case plans had already been approved for further water closet provision.

Following a report to the Health Committee by the Medical Officer of Health, the County Council as the local Education Authority was informed of the position.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Collection of house refuse and salvage was continued as in previous years.

Controlled tipping was continued at the Quarry at the entrance to Aaron's Hill Estate. It is the intention of the Council that this area, when completed, shall be covered with soil and seeded with grass to provide an open space.

During the year 96 dustbins to premises were found to be defective; although some delay was experienced by owners of property in replacing these with new bins, the majority had done so by the end of the year.



## SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Conditions in several shops and offices were improved during the year. Inspections were made in cases where complaints arose or nuisances existed. In no case was it found necessary to take formal action, occupiers responding satisfactorily to informal requests for remedy of defects, etc.

## SMOKE ABATEMENT.

One complaint of smoke nuisance was received and dealt with during the year. Occupiers of factories, workplaces, etc., generally complied with the provisions of the law in keeping their output of smoke down to the minimum.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No infestations or re-infestations were reported or detected during the year.

In response to complaints, several infestations of flies and wasps were dealt with, using a liquid insecticide containing D.D.T.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Seven of the eight private houses in the Borough remain closed. A licence was issued during the year for the eighth slaughterhouse to be used for emergency slaughtering only, with the approval of the Local Food Control Officer. All normal slaughtering for Godalming butchers is carried out in the Government controlled slaughterhouses at Guildford, and assistance was rendered the Guildford Corporation Health Department from time to time during the year in meat inspection duties at these slaughterhouses.

Four slaughtermen in the Borough still hold licences under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The one Tannery remaining in the Borough was regularly inspected. No complaints were received or nuisances detected in respect of the conduct of the various trade processes carried on there. Trade refuse was removed to farms, etc., without nuisance.

## **New Housing.**

The number of new houses erected during the year was 62.

The Town Council built 49 at the Aaron's Hill Estate as part of the Scheme for 230 houses there, and 13 others were erected by other persons.

Further housing accommodation was provided by the conversion of four large private houses and a stable into nine flats.

The number of families re-housed during the year was 82, including one by arrangement with a private landlord. Of 28 complaints of overcrowding investigated by the Health Department, seven were re-housed: five in new houses and two temporarily at Ockford Wood Hall.

Eighteen families are housed in the five large houses retained by the Council as temporary accommodation for applicants needing re-housing urgently.

Twelve families from two-bedroomed Council houses were transferred to three-bedroomed houses to alleviate overcrowding of bedrooms in the former.

At the close of the year there were approximately 750 applicants on the Council's waiting list according to the Borough Surveyor's records. Approximately 530 of these had genuine claims on Godalming Borough for a house, the remainder being applicants resident without the Borough with no qualifying claims.

## **Existing Housing.**

A considerable number of cottages was inspected during the year under the Housing and Public Health Acts, and repairs effected where necessary. The high cost of repairs, together with the absence of legislation permitting Owners of such properties a reasonable increase in rents above the 1939 level, continues to evoke protests from those Owners of property on which housing and sanitary Notices are served. It is consequently difficult to demand the full measure of repair such cottages invariably need, and apart from exceptionally bad cases, or a direct refusal to do any repairs whatsoever, urgent and essential repairs only have been requested. With one or two exceptions Notices have been complied with in the period allowed; the exceptions have been dealt with



under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, by the Town Council in default of Owner.

The condition of some of the existing cottages leaves much to be desired, and although the new Housing Act 1949 affords Owners and Local Authorities financial facilities for improvement of certain cottage property, the terms under which Exchequer contributions are offered—particularly the thirty years of life proviso—is likely to exclude most cottage property in IMMEDIATE need of improvement. Any property in respect of which an application for grant is made under this Act will need to be carefully “vetted” before any recommendation is made to the Local Authority. Up to the end of the year no applications had been received from owners of property in the Borough.

During the year three old cottages were closed for human habitation on undertakings received from the Owners and the families re-housed by the Town Council. Four others, similarly closed in 1948, were re-conditioned by the Owners in accordance with their undertakings, and re-occupied during 1949.

#### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1949.

Number of new houses erected during the year—

1.	By the Town Council ... ..	49
2.	By other bodies or persons ... ..	13
3. (a)	Number of houses converted into flats; (including one stable) ... ..	5
3. (b)	Number of flats resulting from (a) ... ..	9

#### 1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

1. (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ... ..	240
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	258
2. (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	Nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	Nil

3. Number of separate tenements found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	1
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	227

## 2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	198
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## 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

### A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ...	40
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices—	
(a) By Owners ... ..	19
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	8

### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	1
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices—	
(a) By Owners ... ..	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	Nil



C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- |  |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | ... | ... | 1   |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders    | ... | ... | Nil |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- |  |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| 2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

E.—Action taken under Ministry of Health Circular 2156—

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Number of houses licensed for temporary occupation | Nil |
|---|-----|

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

**Milk Supply.**—Control of dairy farms in the Borough passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on the 1st October, 1949. Prior to this one farm had been entirely modernised and was producing graded milk.

Graded milk licences in force issued by the Town Council are :—

Dealers' Licences—Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	3
Dealers' Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk	...	...	3

Sixteen samples of milk and one rinse were taken between 1st January and 1st October and submitted to Guildford Hos-

pital Laboratory for the usual tests for cleanliness in production. Results were as follows:—

Grade of Sample	...	...	...	...	TUBER- CULIN TESTED.	ACCRED- ITED.	UN- GRADED.
Number taken	...	...	...	...	4	6	6
Meth. Blue Test:—							
Passed	...	...	...	...	3	6	4
Failed	...	...	...	...	1	—	2
Bacillus Coli in parts of 1 Ml.:—							
One-tenth—							
Negative	...	...	...	...	3	5	3
Positive	...	...	...	...	1	1	3
One-hundredth—							
Negative	...	...	...	...	3	6	4
Positive	...	...	...	...	1	—	2
One-thousandth—							
Negative	...	...	...	...	3	6	4
Positive	...	...	...	...	1	—	2
Phosphatase Test for Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Remarks	...	...	...	...	3 S 1 U/S	5 S 1 U/S	3 S 3 U/S
S—Satisfactory. U/S—Unsatisfactory.							

#### RINSES FROM VESSELS.

Number taken—1. Bact. Colony Counts per Vessel up to 50,000—passed.

In cases where unsatisfactory results occurred, inspections and investigations were made for faults in production, washing-up, sterilisation, etc., and repeat samples taken. The six samples of ungraded milk and rinse were from one farm. Unsatisfactory results were subsequently proved to be due to lack of care in the washing-up of utensils prior to sterilisation.

Routine inspections of dairy farms (up to 1st October, 1949), milk storage and handling depots, refrigerating rooms, etc., were made. Notices for limewashing and other requirements were complied with, and cleanliness of premises generally well maintained.

**Ice-Cream.** A further seven shop premises were registered during the year under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for storage and sale of this popular article of food, making a total of thirty-three premises registered in the Borough.

In all cases, premises and refrigerating equipment were inspected and approved, and sources of supply checked before Registration Certificates were issued.



Regular inspections of these premises were made to ensure strict cleanliness.

**Meat and Other Foods.** Slaughtering of meat for Godalming continued to be carried out at Guildford under the Government's centralised slaughtering scheme.

Local butchers' premises and other foodshops and stores were inspected for cleanliness in storage, handling and sale of food, provision of sanitary and washing facilities, etc. The various Acts and Regulations controlling such premises appeared to be generally well observed, and Notices served for remedy of defects were complied with satisfactorily.

The weekly removal of trade refuse from shop premises by the Town Council was satisfactorily performed during the year and presented no particular problems. Traders responded promptly to requests to renew receptacles found defective, or install additional refuse bins for the purpose.

A considerable quantity of foodstuffs was condemned during the year, as enumerated in the following list:—

- 4 Cracknell Sandwich Bars.
- 3 Nestles Chocolate Bars.
- 3 lbs. Boiled Sweets.
- 1 lb. Sugar.
- 96 Crabs.
- 44½ stones of Wet and Dry Fish.
- 53 tins of Fish.
- 3 tins Herring Roes.
- 98 tins Soup.
- 13 tins Meat and Vegetables.
- 10½lbs. Pork Chitterlings.
- 163½lbs. Beef Trimmings and Crop.
- 114 lbs. and 3 tins (36lbs.) Beef.
- 2½lbs. Ox Kidney.
- 18 tins (57¾lbs.) Corned Beef.
- 26½lbs. Bacon.
- 24 tins Luncheon Meat, Veal Loaf and Mince Beef.
- 7 tins Pork Brawn.
- 1 tin and 2 cases of Sausages.
- 70 lbs. Salami Sausage.
- 3 tins Danish Pork.
- 1 tin Tongue.
- 6 tins Meat in Gravy.
- 2 tins Pork.
- 3 tins (12½lbs.) Jellyed Veal.
- 4 tins Rabbit.
- 49 lbs. Rabbit.

- 4 $\frac{3}{4}$  lbs. Meat Pie.
- 18 Small Meat Pies.
- 6 tins Tomatoes.
- 76 tins Peas.
- 24 tins Beans.
- 22 bottles Mixed Pickles, Onions and Piccalilli.
- 2 tins Beetroot.
- 2 tins Heinz Spaghetti.
- 4 tins Heinz Beans.
- 2 tins Beans in Tomato.
- 4 tins Spaghetti.
- 2 jars Fish-paste.
- 6 tins Tomato Juice.
- 1 tins Dried Eggs.
- 44 tins Salad Cream.
- 49 $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen Eggs.
- 3 boxes Camembert Cheese.
- 2 jars Salad Cream.
- 6 lbs. Danish Blue Cheese.
- 2 lbs. Butter.
- 76 $\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. Margarine.
- 1 tins Skimmed Milk.
- 86 tins 'Ideal' Milk.
- 13 tins 'Nestles' Milk.
- 7 tins Full Cream Milk.
- 7 tins Sweetened Condensed Milk.
- 9 tins Unsweetened Condensed Milk.
- 155 tins Evaporated Milk.
- 10 tins Marmalade.
- 12 tins Apricot Jam.
- 2 tins Mandarin Oranges.
- 7 tins Apricots.
- 4 tins Pineapple.
- 3 tins Peaches.
- 4 tins Apple Juice.
- 8 tins Plums.
- 1 tin Pears.
- 2 bottles Rhubarb.
- 12 lbs. Self Raising Flour.

### Clean Food Campaign.

A survey of all food premises was made in the Autumn and a record prepared of conditions found in every case.

The question of the setting up of a Food Traders Hygienic Guild was under consideration at the end of the year.



**Food Poisoning Outbreaks.** No case of food poisoning occurred during the year.

## Adulteration and Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

The Surrey County Council administers those provisions of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1938, within the Borough, dealing with sampling and analysis of articles of food, etc., for the detection of adulteration, deterioration, etc.

The County Medical Officer of Health reports that the following samples were taken in the Borough and analysed during 1949 :—

Formal: 21 samples of milk.

Informal: 12 samples of milk, 2 of saccharin tablets, 1 each of bacon, butter, cheese, coffee, coffee essence, cooking fat, fruit juice, margarine, meat, non-alcoholic wine, olive oil, sauce, canned sild, soft drink, suet, sugar, tea, wine, digestive tablets, liquid paraffin, and vitaminised cereal product.

None was found to be adulterated or irregular and there were no prosecutions.

The County Council carried out the following sampling and analyses of food and drugs during 1949 in the whole of the County area for which they are the Food and Drugs Authority :—

Samples analysed—

Formal	...	...	...	...	...	1,355
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	533

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1,888

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Found "adulterated or irregular"—

Formal	...	...	...	...	...	133
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	33

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166

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Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	13
Convictions	...	...	...	...	...	8

(plus four cases dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act.)





