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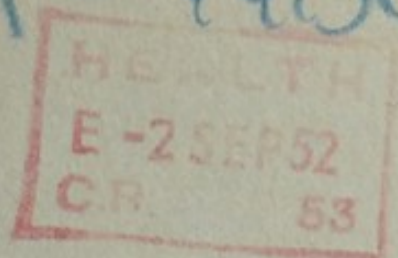
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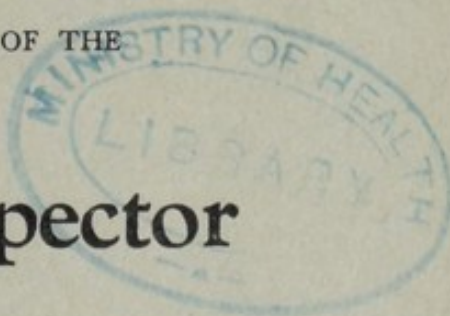
ANNUAL REPORT

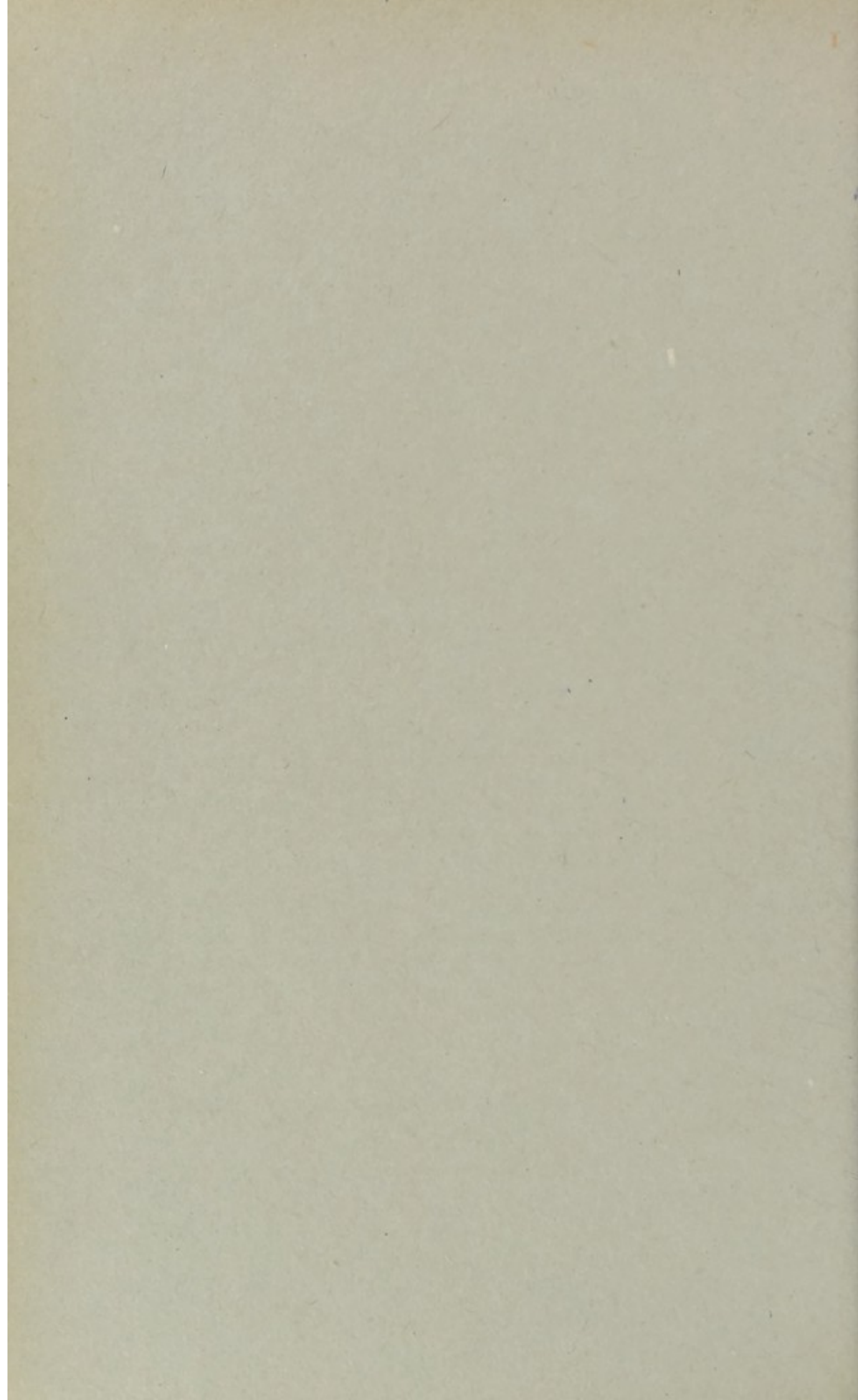
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
for 1951

TOGETHER WITH THAT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector





ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for 1951.

*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 the year 1951.

The Birth Rate is unfortunately lower than ever and no cause for this can be assigned except that mentioned in last year's Report, i.e., voluntary limitation of families; due probably to housing and economic conditions. But to offset this as far as possible the death rate for this year is exceptionally low. The Death Rate for infants is only 10.80 per 1,000 live births, which is lower than I have ever known. Only one child of one year died. The death rate being very low, serves to keep up the population, but it is unquestionably an ageing population. 77% of the deaths were in persons from 65. No death, however, was due to unsatisfactory local conditions. Godalming is undoubtedly a very healthy place to live in and many persons come to it for retirement.

Infectious disease notifications were in excess of last year due to an epidemic of Measles. Mortality from infectious disease was practically non-existent. So far as Diphtheria is concerned, however, it must be realised that it is only by the immunisation campaign that this disease is kept under control. It is still as fatal as ever it was, and the mortality rate per case incidence is exactly the same as previously. This shows clearly that the fall in the incidence is entirely due to immunisation, and not to any lessened virulence of the disease. No slacking in diphtheria immunisation must be allowed to occur.

Yours sincerely,

F. A. BELAM, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

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.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

F. W. CULVER, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., C.Inst.Hsg.
(Resigned 14th April, 1951).

C. R. PESKETT, C.S.I.J.B., M.S.I.A.
(Appointed 1st August, 1951).

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

Clerks:

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

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area: 2,393 acres.

Population (Registrar-General's Estimate, mid-year 1951):
15,030.

Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1951), according
to rate books: 4,139.

Rateable value: £136,499.

Sum represented by a penny rate, 31st March, 1952:
£550.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births—				
Total ...	185	96	89	{ Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popula- tion, 12.30.
Legitimate	174	92	82	
Illegitimate	11	4	7	
Still Births—				
Legitimate	3	2	1	{ Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 15.95. Still-births Rate per 1,000 population, 0.19.
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Deaths ...	190	89	101	{ Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popula- tion, 12.64.

Deaths from Puerperal causes: Nil.

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	... ..	10.80
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	... ..	11.49
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... ..	Nil

The Birth Rate is lower than for 1950 and very considerably lower than that of the country as a whole or that of the 148 smaller towns. It would appear that this is chiefly due to deliberate limitation of families caused by lack of satisfactory housing or economic conditions. But infant welfare is extremely good, so that those infants who do arrive in the world are given every chance of staying.

Our infantile mortality rate of 10.80 is amazingly low; slightly more than a third of that of the country as a whole. It shows a very high standard of child care and reflects the greatest credit upon the mother and her advisers.

The Death Rate of 12.64 is low, almost exactly the same as that for the country as a whole (12.5), or the rate for the smaller towns. As usual the majority of deaths were in those over 65 and the percentage of these deaths for 1951 was 77, a considerable increase upon the 60% of 1950. Heart and circulatory disease including vascular lesions of

Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality in the Year 1951. Provisional Figures.

England and Wales, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 148 Smaller Towns.		England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, in- cluding London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000— 1931 Census)	London	GODALMING
Rate per 1,000 Population						
Live Births	- -	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8	12.30
Still-births	- -	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37	0.19
Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population						
All Causes	- -	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1	12.64
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	- -	—	0.01	0.01	—	—
Whooping Cough	- -	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Influenza	- -	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.23	0.53
Pneumonia	- -	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61	0.99
Tuberculosis	- -	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.38	0.13
Rate per 1,000 Live Births						
Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years	- -	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.7	—
Total Deaths under 1 year	- -	29.6	33.9	27.6	26.4	10.8

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

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births:—

Sepsis of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium	- -	0.10
Other Toxæmias of Pregnancy and the Puerperium	- -	0.24
Haemorrhage of Pregnancy and Childbirth	- - -	0.13
Abortion without mention of sepsis or Toxæmia	- - -	0.05
Abortion with sepsis	- - -	0.09
Other Complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth and the Puerperium	- - -	0.18

Godalming Deaths in 1951.

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 Respiratory ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Infective and Parasitic Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cancer—Stomach ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cancer—Lung or Bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cancer—Breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cancer—Uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Cancer—Other area ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Leukæmia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Coronary Disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Hypertension and Heart Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Disease of Heart ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Circulatory Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Nephritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Congenital Malformation ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other defined Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Motor Accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Homicide and War Operations ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	1	—	1	—	3	3	19	9	64	80	
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	89	96	89	101	

the nervous system were responsible for the majority of deaths. Cancer caused only 23 deaths in all, and diseases considered as preventable did not occasion any trouble. There was only one infant death and this was due to birth injury in a baby of seven hours old.

Five more deaths were ascribed to Godalming by the Registrar-General than could be found in local returns. These were all female.

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. Water samples are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.** This work is done in the Borough by the Godalming Division of the British Red Cross Society for the County Council, using four full-time drivers, manning two ambulances; attendants and other members acting in a voluntary capacity.

Work done by the Society's personnel and ambulances was as follows:—

Number of calls (including 130 accidents) ...	1,723
Number of patients attended	2,215
Number of miles travelled	31,361
Voluntary hours of duty (including cinemas, fetes, etc.) (with ambulance 1,475) ...	2,688

(c) **Nursing in the Home.** Three midwives serving under the Surrey County Council's scheme of financial assistance, care for the needs of the Borough.

The Nurses of the Godalming Nursing and Child Welfare Association carried out the following work during 1951:—

Number of District Cases	445
Number of District Visits	4,758
Number of Midwifery Cases	29
Number of Maternity Cases (with Doctor) ...	12
Number of Midwifery and Maternity Visits ...	821
Number of Ante-Natal Visits	263
Number of Casual Visits	285

(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 "Hillsleigh," Nightingale Road, Godalming.

Ante-Natal: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10 a.m.

Child Welfare: Wednesdays and Fridays, 2 to 4 p.m. (No Doctor on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays).

Dental: Mondays and Thursdays, 9.30 a.m. Other days and times by appointment only.

Diphtheria Immunisation: School Children at School Medical Clinics. Pre-School Children at Child Welfare Clinics.

Eye: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 2 p.m. (by appointment only).

School Medical: Fridays, 9.30 a.m. (except during School Summer Holidays).

At St. Mark's Hall, Ockford Ridge, Godalming.

Welfare Clinic: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2 to 4 p.m.

At Milford Chest Hospital, Godalming.

Tuberculosis Dispensary: 1st and 3rd Fridays, 2 to 6 p.m.

At South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board

Chest Clinic,

64, Epsom Road, Guildford.

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 Diseases:

Males: Tuesdays and Fridays, 5 to 7 p.m.

Females: Mondays, 3 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 202 beds were occupied daily throughout the year. 9,519 out-patients made 35,172 attendances and in addition 17,077 patients attended the casualty department. The Hospital carries a staff of

Specialists in all branches of medicine and surgery with the exception of gynaecology, paediatrics and dermatology.

(2) St. Luke's Hospital, Warren Road, Guildford; General Hospital, 404 beds. Training school for nurses and Part 1 midwifery. General Medical and Surgical, gynaecological, dermatological and paediatric wards, maternity and geriatric units, isolation unit, out-patient department, facilities for physiotherapy, light treatment and rehabilitation, X-ray unit and pathological laboratory. Regional Radiotherapy Centre of 54 beds.

(3) St. Thomas' Hospital, Hydestile, Godalming. This hospital has 136 beds at present and most of the patients come from London, although the admission list does include 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.

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

Infectious Diseases. As previously reported, Godalming cases of notifiable infectious disease requiring hospital provision are admitted to the Isolation Hospitals at Ottershaw and Farnham. Admissions are as shewn in the table:—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever ...	19	11	—
Enteric ...	1	1	—
Pneumonia ...	55	1	15
Whooping Cough	32	1	—
Measles ...	521	5	—
Erysipelas ...	4	2	—
Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	—
	<hr/> 633	<hr/> 22	<hr/> 15

Scarlet Fever. Nineteen notifications were received and eleven cases were admitted to hospital.

All of these cases were of the now prevailing mild variety. It would appear that the old severe type is no longer to be found. Of course, the present methods of treatment are most effective in preventing complications due to infection superimposed on the scarlet fever; and the haemolytic streptococcus itself, the cause of the disease, is of a type readily destroyed by penicillin, streptomycin or other chemotherapeutic agent. Apart from three children attending the same school, when a case-to-case infection was a definite possibility, and two sisters with fifteen days between onset of disease, all other cases would seem to have been sporadic, with no traceable connection.

Whooping Cough was again low in incidence but **Measles** was widespread and occasioned 521 cases. But only five of these were sent to hospital, the others being successfully nursed at home.

For Whooping Cough there is a vaccine now to be more generally used which is certainly effective in preventing or minimising an attack of whooping cough. This will probably be in use in Godalming in 1952.

For Measles no satisfactory vaccine is yet known, though laboratory work still proceeds on this matter.

Cases of infectious disease nursed at home always have available the assistance of the Health Visitors of the County Council to advise the Mothers on home nursing and isolation.

A notification of each case of infectious disease is immediately sent to County Hall to enable this liaison between local authority and County Health Staff to be speedily effected.

Poliomyelitis. Only one case of this disease was confirmed. This was a child of seven who was treated in the Royal Surrey County Hospital. Though she was confirmed as a true case, she had no paralysis, cleared in 72 hours, was sent home eight days after admission to hospital, and had fully recovered in three weeks.

Enteric. One case of this disease was notified. The patient was a young Frenchman who returned from his summer holidays in Algiers via France. He returned to England

on the 26th September, to Godalming. A week later he visited Derby and on the 20th October fell ill there, returning to Godalming three days later, when he was so ill that he was admitted to St. Luke's Hospital and there diagnosed enteric. His mode of infection is therefore obscure, but it does not seem to have arisen in Godalming. He was in hospital for five weeks and then had a month's convalescence.

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	Totals
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	—	2	14	2	—	—	—	—	—	19
Pneumonia	1	3	7	4	—	16	—	—	3	3	9	9	55
Whooping Cough	1	2	5	8	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Measles	5	39	47	82	80	57	2	—	8	1	—	—	521
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	7	44	60	94	90	296	4	—	12	5	11	10	633

Summary of Notifications of Cases and Contacts of Infectious Diseases received from Schools.

Disease		Mendrow County Secondary	Bridge Road Jun. Mixed and Infants	Moss Lane Girls and Boys	Busbridge	Farncombe, George Road	County Grammar	St. John St. Jun. Mixed and Infants	Raglan Nursery	Wharf Day Nursery	Total
Measles	...	6	39	83	13	102	4	27	14	16	304
Scarlet Fever	...	1	5	10	1	—	2	—	—	1	20
Mumps	...	7	10	41	2	23	6	15	4	—	108
Whooping Cough...	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	2	7
Chicken-Pox	...	2	2	32	—	—	2	2	1	—	41
Yellow Jaundice	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ringworm	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	4
German Measles	...	1	4	16	—	4	—	—	2	1	28
		18	63	183	17	133	14	44	22	20	514

Diphtheria occasioned no case.

Diphtheria immunisation figures are much improved on those of last year, 67.45 % of Godalming children now having been protected from diphtheria.

The table shews the exact figures and age groups of those dealt with:—

Diphtheria Immunisation Statistics.

Age at 31st December, 1951	i.e., Born in Year	Number Immunised	Estimated mid-year Pop- ulation, 1951	Number and Percentage Immunised
Under 1	1951	15	1084	582 (53.69%)
1	1950	151		
2	1949	127		
3	1948	138		
4	1947	151		
5—9	1946—1942	982	2336	1725 (73.84%)
10—15	1941—1937	743		
Totals, under 15	—	2307	3420	2307 (67.45%)

It will be seen from the above table that the number immunised under fifteen years of age was 2,307, out of a mid-year child population of 3,420; that is a percentage of 67.45. Of these, 582 were under five years of age, and for a mid-year population of 1,084 of children under five this means a percentage of children immunised of 53.69. Out of a mid-year population of 2,336 of children between the ages of five and fifteen years, 1,725 were immunised, giving a percentage of 73.84. This is eminently satisfactory.

Vaccination. Vaccination figures are also rising considerably. During 1951 there were 185 births, out of which 100 children were vaccinated, giving a percentage of 54.05.

Tuberculosis. At the close of the year there were 122 cases on the register: seven more than in 1950—59 males and 63 females. Particulars of new cases, deaths, transfers, etc., are shewn below; also the result of the annual survey of housing conditions of the 90 pulmonary cases on the register, which occasions no alarm, though in ten cases an extra bedroom is desirable.

Tuberculosis: New Cases and Mortality during 1951.

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	...	—	—	1	...	—	—	—	—
15-20	...	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
20-25	...	1	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
25-35	...	2	5*	1*	...	—	—	—	—
35-45	...	1	—	1*	...	1	—	—	—
45-55	...	—	1*	—	...	—	—	—	—
55-65	...	—	—	—	...	—	1	—	—
65 and over	...	3*	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
					...	1	1	—	—

*Transfer.

The annual survey of the housing conditions of the 90 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis on the Registers shewed little change:—

Forty-two cases had their own bedroom.

Forty-two cases shared a bedroom, but in eighteen of these a separate bedroom was available.

Six cases were in Sanatoria at time of survey.

In ten cases an extra bedroom was desirable, but none of these houses was overcrowded, having regard to the Housing Standard provided by the Housing Act, 1936.

Four families, in each of which one member was tubercular, were re-housed by the Housing Committee during the year, and two other families transferred to larger Council houses.

Sanitary Inspector's Report

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)	818
Nuisances, Complaints, Advisory Visits, etc. ...	640
Inspections of—	
Drainage to Houses, including Tests	146
Meat Inspections	42
Bakehouses	145
Dairies, Milk-Shops and Milk-Stores	8
Factories, Work-places and Outworkers Premises	152
Food Shops and places where food is prepared and stored, including Ice-cream Premises ...	536
Foodstuffs for condemnation	145
Offensive Trades Premises	11
Premises, reference Provision of Dustbins ...	49
Piggeries	22
Public and Private Conveniences	57
Investigations under—	
Shops and Young Persons Employment Acts ...	88
Petroleum and Carbide Acts	23
Infectious Disease Notifications and Prevention Acts (including Disinfections)	109
Part IV Housing Act, 1936 (Overcrowding) ...	7
Public Health Act, 1936 (Smoke Abatement)...	10
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (involving inspection, baiting and re-inspection of 108 sewer manholes)	1,654
Sampling of—	
Water Supplies	9
Milk Supplies	15
Ice Cream	40
	<hr/>
	4,726
	<hr/>

NOTICES SERVED.

Statutory Notices	...	...	53
Informal Notices	...	...	338
			<hr/>
Total Notices served	...	...	391
Complied with	...	...	359
			<hr/>
Not complied with at 31.12.51			32
			<hr/>

Factories Act, 1937.

(Information required by the Secretary of State.)

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

Premises.	Inspec- tions.	Number of Written Notices.	Occup. Pros.
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	33	9	—
Factories without Mechanical Power	102	—	—
Other premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises)	11	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	146	9	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Premises.	Number of Defects		Referred by H.M. Inspector.	No. of Defects in respect of which Prosec- utions were Instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	7	7	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)				
Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
*Other Offences ...	1	1	1	—
	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 1	<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 of the Factories Act, 1937.)

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply throughout the supply area has been satisfactory, both in quality and quantity.

No new sources of supply were brought into operation during the year.

Samples of treated and untreated water have been taken quarterly by the Health Department from the Borough Road and Ockford Works sources. Laboratory reports on these have proved all samples to be satisfactory, bacteriologically and chemically, apart from the usual traces of iron, particularly in the Ockford samples.

Bacteriological examinations have also been made on samples collected quarterly from various premises in the

water area within and without the Borough, by the Water Department. All these were reported upon as of satisfactory bacterial purity.

In addition, reports on ten samples of water taken by the Chief Sanitary Inspectors of Hambledon Rural District and Guildford Rural District—within their respective areas—all proved satisfactory.

No form of contamination occurred in the water supply during the year.

The number of dwelling houses supplied from the Corporation's mains is 7,374, two of which are supplied by standpipe, and the estimated population involved is 26,200 and 7 respectively.

New mains extensions during the year were:—
Hambledon Rural District:

Milford: Manor Fields Estate, 498 yards of 3in. main; and Cherry Tree Road, 405 yards of 4in. main, for new housing sites for the Council.

Bramley: Thorncombe Street to Selhurst Common, 2,421 yards of 6in. main, trunk extension to provide supply to Cranleigh and Chiddingfold Water Co. at Palmers Cross.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No new works of soil or surface water sewerage were carried out during the year.

The Council has decided to reconstruct its Sewage Disposal Works at Unstead and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has already agreed to the principle of the scheme which has been prepared. It is anticipated that if the detailed proposals are accepted by the Ministry, tenders should be advertised for and work commenced during the present financial year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

One complaint of pollution of the River Wey was received and referred to the Thames Conservancy Inspector for the area. Pollution was stopped within a few days.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of cesspools and pail closets remaining in the Borough is 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 undertake to empty cesspools in its area.

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 51 dustbins to premises were found to be defective; these were renewed by owners and occupiers of premises under Notice from the Department.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

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.

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.

One infestation of bed-bugs was discovered during the year, and successfully treated by the use of D.D.T. Insecticide.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Seven of the eight private slaughterhouses in the Borough remain closed. The remaining slaughterhouse is 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.

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

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

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

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The work under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, increased considerably during the year.

Householders and occupiers of business premises took full advantage of the facilities offered. The Council's decision to provide a FREE service to householders continued to have the desired effect of bringing to light many minor infestations which would otherwise have remained undiscovered.

The operator, Mr. C. E. Hall, worked conscientiously and well during the year, and several written and verbal expressions in appreciation of his services were received from occupiers of formerly infested premises.

The work carried out by the operator for the twelve months under review is summarised as follows:—

Number of complaints and infestations detected	292
Number of visits and re-visits involved, including treatments	935
Number of visits and re-visits under contract	719
Number of premises fumigated for insect pests	21

The majority of infestations were of minor character.

Under the Act it is the duty of the Local Authority to deal specifically with their own premises and undertakings, including the systematic testing and treatment of sewers. The annual inspection and test of a percentage of sewer manholes was made and a further maintenance treatment carried out in 1951. Of 108 manholes test-baited "takes" were recorded in 17. Treatment was applied to these, with consequent reduction in the minor infestations found.

Proprietors of several business premises preferred to enter into annual contract with the Council for regular inspection and treatment of their premises. This arrangement proved most effective, as the majority of the premises concerned are liable to re-infestation by reason of the nature of the business carried on.

Complaints received from 16 householders in regard to other insect pests were investigated and treatment carried out on payment of cost. A number of wasps nests on public footpaths and highways were also dealt with.

New Housing.

New houses erected during 1951 numbered 70; of which 61 were erected by the Town Council: 53 on the Aarons Hill Estate, 8 at Furze Lane. Local builders erected 9 houses for owner-occupiers. In addition, 3 large private houses were converted into 10 flats, making a total of 80 units of accommodation provided during the year.

The Town Council re-housed 98 families requiring adequate accommodation: 61 in new houses and 37 in pre-war Council houses and requisitioned properties.

At the close of the year, although the Town Council had built 239 houses since the end of the war, there were some 914 applications for houses on the Council's waiting list.

During 1951 the Town Council acquired by compulsory powers an acreage of land on the Binscombe Farm Estate for the erection of approximately 300 houses (including provision for a number to be built by private enterprise), and in the autumn a start was made on laying down roads and sewers.

Existing Housing.

During the year 284 privately-owned houses were inspected under the provisions of the Housing and Public Health Acts, mainly because of complaint from the tenants, where Owners had been unable or had refused to carry out essential repairs.

On service of Notice to repair, Owners invariably made the usual protest as to the inadequacy of the rents to cover cost of even urgent structural maintenance work. However, with one or two exceptions, Notices were fairly well complied with, and some very necessary repair work effected.

Three old cottages vacated under Notice some years ago remain closed as unfit for human habitation under written undertakings from the Owners. Seven others are being used for storage purposes, and one was reconditioned and re-let for human habitation during the year. The question of two other cottages found to be in a dangerous condition was referred to the Borough Surveyor.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1951.

Number of new houses erected during the year—

1.	By the Town Council	61
2.	By other bodies or persons	9
3. (a)	Number of houses converted into flats ...	3
(b)	Number of flats resulting from (a) ...	10

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)	284
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	318
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 ...	2
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	201

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 ...	169
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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 ...	17
2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices—	
(a) By Owners	14
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	1

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	36
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices—	
(a) By Owners	17
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owner	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	Nil
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 |

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply. Four distributors of milk are registered in the Borough. Two of these hold Dealers' Licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk and Pasteurised Milk; the remaining two are licensed to sell Sterilized Milk. Premises are inspected periodically to ensure compliance with the conditions of their licences.

Twelve samples of milk were taken from Distributors for bacteriological examination, as follows:—

- 3 Tuberculin Tested (Certified).
- 2 Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised).
- 5 Pasteurised.
- 2 Sterilised.

All passed the statutory tests for their particular grades and were reported as satisfactory by the laboratory.

Ice Cream. There are now 39 premises in the Borough registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938: one for manufacture, storage and sale, and 38 for storage and sale only.

All premises are inspected to ensure strict cleanliness in the handling of supplies; also as to source of supply, refrigeration equipment, etc. These conditions have to be complied with before any application for registration is considered.

Forty samples of ice cream were taken during the summer months from registered ice cream retailers for bacteriological examination. Results were as follows: 19 were classified Grade I; 15 Grade II; 5 Grade III; and 1 Grade IV.

Steps were taken to bring the Grade II, III and IV samples up to Grade I. Further sampling proved such improvement possible and a good standard had been effected and maintained by the autumn.

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 instal additional refuse bins for the purpose.

A considerable quantity of foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption was condemned during the year:—

Fresh Foods:

Fish	...	...	...	85 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	98½ lbs.
Beef	...	...	...	126½ lbs.
Rabbit	...	...	...	19½ lbs.
Bacon	...	...	...	5¾ lbs.

Total: 335¼ lbs.

Tinned Goods, etc.:

Ham	...	...	...	33 tins.
Corned Beef, Sausages, etc.	...	...	...	35 tins.
Milk	...	...	...	308 tins.
Fish	...	...	...	177 tins.
Meats	...	...	...	135 tins.
Fruit	...	...	...	391 tins.
Vegetables	...	...	...	141 tins.
Chicken	...	...	...	6 tins.
Jam	...	...	...	15 tins.
Soup	...	...	...	16 tins.
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	143 tins.

Total: 1,400 Tins.

Clean Food Campaign.

During the year 689 visits were made to premises to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and local Byelaws made thereunder.

Conditions generally were found to be reasonably satisfactory, but room for improvement still exists in some instances.

Requests for improvement in structural and equipment items were made at 34 premises. At the close of the year 23 of these had been complied with; the remainder were in hand.

During the year arrangements were made at a number of restaurants and cafes to commence a series of tests to determine the cleanliness of crockery, cutlery, washing-up water, etc., by bacteriological examination.

The co-operation of both management and staff is required for these tests, and in all cases this was readily given. The first tests shewed better results than had been anticipated, but drew attention to the importance of good washing-up and the free use of hot water, detergents and sterilising agents. Where unsatisfactory tests resulted, suggested improvements were carried out, and further tests will prove the degree of effectiveness.

The details of results of the tests were as follows:—

UTENSIL TESTS.

Eight series were taken and submitted for examination; this resulted in 41 tests, of which 21 were unsatisfactory, and of these 8 shewed the maximum bacterial count of more than 2,000.

In all 41 tests, faecal coli was absent, but in one case B. Coli was isolated.

WASHING-UP WATER.

Seven samples were submitted for examination and 4 found to be unsatisfactory. In 3 of these, B. Coli was isolated, but faecal coli was not detected.

Adulteration and Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

The Surrey County Council administers those provisions of the 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 1951:—

Formal: 26 samples of milk and 2 of sausages.

Informal: 5 samples of milk, 4 of sausages, and 1 each of butter, cheese, cooking fat, cream, curry powder, margarine, pepper, pickles, sugar and tomatoes. Also one sample each of the following drugs: Quinine, Iodine, and Sal Volatile.

Result: One formal and one informal samples of sausages, and one informal and one formal samples of Quinine were found to be "adulterated or irregular."

There was one prosecution in the former case, and the result: "Conditional discharge" (one year).

The County Council carried out the following sampling and analyses of food and drugs during 1951 in the whole of the County area for which they are the Food and Drugs Authority:—

Samples analysed—involving 127 items of food and drugs—

Formal	...	...	...	1,381
Informal	...	...	...	487
				1,868
Found "adulterated or irregular"—				
Formal	...	...	...	139
Informal	...	...	...	44
				183

There were 14 prosecutions involving various articles of food and drugs; resulting in 13 convictions: 7 in respect of milk, and 1 each in respect of cake mixture, chocolate roll, ice cream, jelly, sausage meat and sausages.

The fourteenth prosecution was the Godalming Borough case reported above (conditional discharge).



