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BOROUGH OF GODALMING



Sum

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
for 1958

TOGETHER WITH THAT OF THE


Chief



Public Health Inspector

Mills & Sons, Printers, Ltd., Guildford.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for 1958.

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

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have great pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1958. Once again, I am glad to say, the year was uneventful and free from outbreaks of serious infectious illness or other untoward happenings.

Until more is known in general of those diseases which are caused by a virus, and of means of preventing and treating them, so we shall continue to suffer from such diseases as the common cold, influenza, measles, mumps, chicken-pox and so on. Much experimental work continues in the study of these diseases, and in fact Virology, the study of viruses, is fast becoming a speciality. Drugs like Penicillin, which are known as antibiotics, are of no value in the treatment of viruses.

There were only 71 cases of Infectious Disease notified, as compared with 313 (mostly Measles) in 1957; there were only 62 cases of Measles in 1958. Poliomyelitis, of which one reads so much these days, only affected two residents of Godalming, a school child, and an adult; the year as a whole throughout the Country had a low incidence of this disease, it is good to be able to record, and while it is as yet too early to say definitely, there are grounds for

hoping that the Poliomyelitis Vaccination Scheme played its part in this reduction. As in 1957, seven cases of Infectious Disease were admitted to Hospital, largely for social reasons.

The Death Rate is almost unchanged from 1957 at just under eleven deaths per 1,000 of the estimated population.

The Infant Mortality Rate, which is the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births, shows a small increase to 13.33; this is however well below the national figure of 22.5.

There were no Maternal Deaths; the last having been in 1953, and great credit is due to those who have the care of Mothers before, during and after delivery.

During the first few months of 1958, there was a great shortage of Poliomyelitis Vaccine in this Country, and there were very large waiting lists; the shortage was due to small production of British Vaccine and a policy of not issuing American and Canadian vaccine until it had been tested here and in the country of manufacture. Fortunately the Government relaxed the latter restriction, and adequate supplies for all became available from June onwards. The County Council's Vaccination Scheme was very hard pressed from June to September, as the waiting list was dealt with. The scheme is now an established and successful one. By the end of the year vaccination was available to all born in 1933, and since, and to expectant mothers.

The Water Board continued to make progress with their plans to provide Godalming with a supply of water free from high iron content, and there is little doubt that improved sources of supply, and of distribution, will achieve this result. In fact, parts of Godalming have already benefited. As in 1957, some of the Board's bore-holes in Godalming had to remain out of action owing to the water not being of the required standard.

The Sewage Disposal Works dealt efficiently with its load, and for the second year running has not caused any complaints to be made to this Department.

The Gas Works having closed has made an appreciable difference to the cleanliness of the surrounding area.

Housing remains as usual one of the biggest problems for the Council and for those who are as yet inadequately housed. As the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report shows, progress continues to be made, limited though it is, in dealing with sub-standard houses: the limitation of the clearance programme is due to the fact that it is entirely governed by the availability of new houses in which to re-house those displaced from elsewhere in the Borough.

All in all, the sanitary circumstances of this Borough, and its vital statistics, show that its inhabitants are lucky to live where they do: they could fare much worse elsewhere.

During the year the Health Committee lost its identity as such, and is now the Housing and Public Health Committee, thus uniting two closely linked functions of the Council. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Councillor Mrs. Rothwell for her help and interest during the years she was Chairman of the Health Committee. To the members of both these Committees, and to the Council, I would like to express my sincere thanks for their very real interest in our work. To Dr. Richards, Mr. Warner and the other Members of the Health Department my thanks are also due for ensuring the smooth running of the Department. Finally, I am most grateful to the Officers of other Departments who are always helpful and sympathetic.

I am, Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. B. R. FINN,
Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health:

A. B. R. FINN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.
(Municipal Offices, High Street, Guildford. Tel. 5201).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

A. H. M. RICHARDS, M.A., T.D., B.M., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

P. A. WARNER, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

C. R. PESKETT, C.S.I.J.B., M.A.P.H.I.

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

Clerk:

Miss J. S. STEARNE.

Statistical and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area: 2,393 acres.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate, mid-year 1958):
15,750.

Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1958), according
to Rate Books): 4,887.

Rateable Value: £252,209.

Sum represented by a penny rate, estimated 1958/59:
£1,000.

Extracts from Vital Statistics

(Comparative of the years 1957 and 1958).

	1957			1958			England and Wales, 1958.
	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live Births ...	246	126	120	225	117	108	
Legitimate ...	240	125	115	212	108	104	
Illegitimate ...	6	1	5	13	9	4	
Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births	2.43			5.77			
Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 of Estimated Population ...	16.34			14.85			16.4
Still Births —							
Legitimate ...	4	3	1	4	2	2	
Illegitimate ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	
Still Birth Rate, per 1,000 Live and Still Births ...	19.92			17.46			21.6
Total Live and Still Births ...	251			229			
Deaths ...	190	101	89	170	86	84	
Death Rate, per 1,000 of Estimated Population ...	11.29			10.03			11.7
Deaths of Infants under one year of age ...	3 *			3 *			
Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births	12.19			13.33			22.5
Legitimate ...	12.50			14.15			
Illegitimate ...	—			—			
Maternal Deaths (including Abortion)	—			—			
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births ...	—			—			

* All under four weeks

The Birth Rate, at 14.85 live births per 1,000 of estimated population, shows a small drop from the 1957 figure of 16.34, but there is no great significance in a variation of this kind in a small population such as that of Godalming.

The Death Rate calls for no comment in itself.

Deaths of the two sexes were almost equal in number. Three children died under the age of one year, one at one

Godalming Deaths in 1958.

Cause of Death					Total	Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis—Lungs	...	...	...	1	—	1
2.	Tuberculosis—Other	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases...				—	—	—
10.	Cancer—Stomach	...	...	...	6	2	4
11.	Cancer—Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	9	8	1
12.	Cancer—Breast	...	...	...	3	—	3
13.	Cancer—Uterus	...	...	...	3	—	3
14.	Cancer—Other sites	...	...	...	19	10	9
15.	Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—	—
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	19	8	11
18.	Coronary disease, Angina	...	...	...	42	25	17
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	5	3	2
20.	Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	14	8	6
21.	Other Circulatory disease	...	...	...	6	1	5
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	—	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	13	4	9
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	5	3	2
25.	Other diseases of Respiratory System...				1	—	1
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	4	3	1
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	...	...	...	—	—	—
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis...	...	...	...	—	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate...	...	...	...	1	1	—
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	—	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases...				13	7	6
33.	Motor Vehicle accidents...	...	...	...	—	—	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	5	3	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	—	—	—
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	—
Totals					170	86	84

day, one at one hour, and one at three days: in each case death was due to premature birth. The reasons which cause children to be born prematurely are receiving much study, but at the moment it is a subject on which little light has been shed, by and large.

The percentage of deaths occurring over the age of 65 years rose from 69% in 1956 to 73% in 1957 and to 74% in 1958: women as always continue to outlive men.

Diseases of the Heart and Arteries caused 50% of all deaths: this is the usual pattern. This group includes Strokes, and all forms of Heart Failure: Coronary Artery Disease is easily the biggest cause of Heart Failure, accounting for 42 deaths. It is commoner in men (25) than women (17) and tends to occur earlier in men (average age at death being 69 years) than in women (average age at death being 77 years).

Cancer caused 20% of all deaths, and remains the second biggest cause. Lung cancer caused 9 deaths, a small drop on last year's exceptionally high figure; all but one were males.

Despite the high price of cigarettes, the national expenditure on them remains colossal, and likewise the risk of incurring lung cancer in those who smoke heavily (over twenty-five per day) remains needlessly high. As I said in my report for last year, it seems to me that only a National Campaign at Government level, using Television as a medium, is likely to produce any reduction in cigarette smoking amongst the public. Research on the subject continues, being financed both from Public Funds and by the Tobacco Industry.

Only one death from infectious disease occurred during the year, a remarkably satisfactory state of affairs, though not unique in Godalming's annals, as there have been years recently with no deaths from this cause.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

(a) **Laboratory Facilities.** These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service at the Public Health Laboratory at St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford. All examinations and tests are carried out free of charge to Local Authorities.

(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 six full-time drivers manning two ambulances. The Station is manned by permanent staff from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays to Fridays and 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. At other times the Station is manned by voluntary members.

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

Number of calls	...	...	...	...	4,978
Number of patients attended...	...	...	...	...	5,654
Number of miles travelled	...	...	...	...	52,984
Voluntary hours of duty (including cinemas, fetes, etc., with Ambulance)	...	...	...	...	11,495

The number of hours of voluntary duty is a tremendous credit to the Red Cross members.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.** This work is carried out in the Borough by three excellent Queen's District Nurses. The work runs smoothly and has increased during past years.

Their work for 1958 is as follows:—

	Cases.	Visits.
General Visits (excluding T.B.)	358	4,186
Midwifery and Maternity	57	1,368
Tuberculosis	11	370
Ante-Natal and Post-Natal	57	329
Totals	483	6,253

A slight decrease from 1957.

(d) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.** (See inside back cover.)

(e) **Hospital Provision.**

(1) St. Luke's Hospital, Warren Road, Guildford, offers 389 general beds and two private. Apart from Surgery, there is emphasis on obstetrics, gynaecology, paediatrics, geriatrics, dermatology and X-Ray Therapy.

(2) The Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, offers 233 beds. An average of 190 beds were occupied daily throughout the year. 10,410 out-patients made 35,490 attendances, and in addition 20,506 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.

(3) Milford Chest Hospital, near Godalming. This is a Special Hospital, which has 280 beds for Pulmonary Tuberculosis and other Chest Diseases, including Lung Cancer. It receives many patients from Godalming suffering from these complaints; much of the work involves Chest Surgery, including Heart operations.

This Hospital provides the Chest Clinic facilities for Out-Patients from Godalming, under the control of the Physician Superintendent and his staff. Transport facilities are now available on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month, to meet patients at Milford Station and convey them to the Clinic and return them to the Station after their appointment. At present this will only apply to Friday clinics.

(f) **Maternity and Nursing Homes.** There is one registered nursing home in the Borough in the name of the Franciscan Sisters, Mount Alvernia, Godalming, with accommodation for sixteen maternity, surgical and medical patients.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious and other Diseases.

Infectious Disease. Cases of Infectious Diseases admitted to Hospital are shown in the Table:—

	Cases Admitted to Hospital.
Gastro-enteritis	1
Food Poisoning	1
Impetigo	3
Tonsillitis	1
Measles	1
? Poliomyelitis (not confirmed) ...	2
	<hr/> 9 <hr/>

Only seventy-one cases of Infectious Disease (other than Tuberculosis) were notified during the year, whereas there were 308 cases (mostly Measles) in 1957.

Those requiring admission to Hospital numbered only nine: none were admitted because the illness was serious, but only because of social reasons.

There was only one death from infectious disease (Pulmonary Tuberculosis). How thrilled the founders of the Public Health Service would be if they were alive to see the great changes which have taken place in this field, since the days of widespread cholera, tuberculosis, smallpox, diphtheria, and the many other killers.

Poliomyelitis. Two mild cases occurred, one being without paralysis at any stage: one case was in a child and one in an adult. The two cases were not connected with one another.

During the summer of 1958, the Government decided to make available large quantities of Salk Vaccine from America and Canada without further testing, to enable the large number of children on the waiting lists throughout the country to be vaccinated. Up till then only British

Vaccine and Salk Vaccine tested in this country, as well as in the country of manufacture, had been available, and the supplies were quite inadequate.

As a result of more vaccine being available it was possible to carry out an intensive campaign of vaccination during June, July, August and September, entirely without any untoward results either locally or nationally.

Under the County Council's scheme, 2,459 children received two injections, mostly at Schools and Clinics, though some General Practitioners also take part in the scheme.

Vaccination is available to all born in 1933 and since, and the greatest need is to encourage those between 15 and 25 to register: among them the response was very poor during 1958 (only about 10% of those eligible registered). By the end of 1958, 90% of those under 15 had been vaccinated in the Borough, a gratifyingly high percentage (2,978 children out of an estimated child population of 3,251). Booster (third) doses were also begun during 1958: 432 received 'boosters'.

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
Measles	—	3	8	6	8	35	1	1	—	—	—	—	62
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis:													
Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Non-Para'tic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	—	3	9	7	8	35	2	1	3	1	2	—	71

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

Note: Those diseases marked * are not included among the list of Infectious Diseases which are Statutorily Notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health.

Disease	Busbridge C. of E. School	Godalming County Grammar School	Farncombe C. of E. Junior Mixed School	Farncombe C. of E. Infants Mixed School	Godalming County Primary Mixed School	Godalming C. of E. Primary Mixed School	Meadrow County Secondary School	Wharf Nursery School	Totals
Measles ...	2	—	2	36	—	—	—	—	40
*Chicken Pox ...	—	4	42	69	24	42	6	—	187
*Mumps ...	2	—	27	68	—	17	5	—	119
*German Measles	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	6
*Glandular Fever	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
*Virus Meningitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
*Impetigo ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Salmonella Typhi-murium...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	7	7	73	177	25	59	11	—	359

Whooping Cough Immunisation.

Age at Final Injection.	Primary Injection.	Re-inforcing Injection.
0-4 years ...	163	1
5-14 years ...	4	7
Totals	167	8

This Table shows little variation from the previous year. So far as the County Council's Clinics are concerned, re-inforcing injections are not considered to be indicated and are not carried out.

The case of Whooping Cough notified did not occur in an immunised child.

Diphtheria Immunisation Statistics.

Age at 31st December, 1958	i.e., Born in Year	Number Immunised	Estimated mid-year Child Population, 1958	Number and Percentage Immunised
Under 1	1958	43	3251	2749 (84.55%)
1—4	1954—1957	727		
5—9	1949—1953	896		
10—14	1944—1948	1083		
Totals, under 15	—	2749	3251	2749 (84.55%)

Though Godalming had no case of Diphtheria, cases of this disease still occur from time to time in this country and are frequently severe in the case of the un-immunised. It is only by continually urging Diphtheria Immunisation that this disease can be controlled; were cases of it to occur, the public would be more anxious for their children to be immunised, as is the case with Poliomyelitis.

During 1957, the latest year for which figures have been published, there were 37 cases of Diphtheria, and 6 deaths in England and Wales: 2 of these deaths occurred more than a year after the acute episode.

The immunisation statistics for Godalming show that the percentage immunised within five years of birth continues to rise, being 79% in 1957 and 84% in 1958: this is an excellent figure, well above the National Target of 75%, and it is unlikely we shall be able to go much above it, though we shall go on trying.

The introduction of Poliomyelitis Vaccination has the effect of increasing the number of injections that a child may need to have during its first year of life to seven, in addition to vaccination against Smallpox. This is indeed a formidable figure for the child and a trial for the Mother, and research proceeds with a view to finding ultimately a safe combined vaccine protecting against diphtheria, whooping cough, poliomyelitis and tetanus.

Vaccinations against Smallpox.

During 1958, 153 infants under the age of one year were vaccinated, some by General Practitioners and some at the Clinics. The right time for primary vaccination is at

about three months old, as not only does this protect the infant but it reduces the likelihood of reactions if vaccination is required later in life. Smallpox still occurs in this country, usually being brought in by air or sea travellers, and fatalities occur every year. Smallpox vaccination in infancy is a wise step.

Tuberculosis. There were eleven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis added to the Register: this included eight transfers from other districts. There were six non-pulmonary cases. One death occurred, in a female of 34 years.

There were 103 cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1958, and 102 at the beginning.

The County Council's Scheme for B. C. G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis continues: it is available only to thirteen year olds, this being the National Policy, aimed at protecting those about to leave school who are not already immune. So far, no Independent Schools in the Borough have accepted the Scheme, though many do elsewhere.

The figures of B. C. G. Vaccination are:—

Percentage accepting the offer of	
B. C. G. Vaccination	58.40
Number receiving B. C. G. Vaccination	186
Number immune—Vaccination not required	20

The following Table shows age groups of new cases and deaths of cases on the register during 1958:—

Age Periods.	New Cases.					Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
1-5 ...	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
5-10 ...	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
10-15 ...	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
15-20 ...	—	—	—	1	...	—	—	—	—
20-25 ...	*1	*1	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
25-30 ...	—	—	—	1	...	—	—	—	—
30-35 ...	*1	*1	—	1	...	—	1	—	—
35-45 ...	(*1) 3	—	—	2 (*1)	...	—	—	—	—
45-55 ...	—	*2	*1	—	...	†1	—	—	—
55-65 ...	(*1) 2	—	—	—	...	†1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	4	1	5	...	2	1	—	—

(*—Transfers. †—Deaths not due to Tuberculosis.)

After-Care. The work of the Godalming and Haslemere Tuberculosis Care Committee continued throughout the year, assisting deserving patients and families in its area on the recommendation of the Care Almoners and Health Visitors. Twelve Godalming and ten Haslemere patients were given grants, totalling £135 8s.

Formerly known as The N.A.P.T. (National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis), The Chest and Heart Association, to which this Committee is affiliated, decided this year to extend its work to include cases of non-tuberculous chest disease and diseases of the heart, which are making increased demands on the chest hospitals and clinics.

The Standing Conference of Surrey Tuberculosis Care Committees had the question under consideration with a view to assisting individual Care Committees to decide their future policy. It appears likely the County Health Committee will favour the extension of care work to include these diseases and, it is hoped, increase the present annual grant of £50 to Care Committees to assist in enabling them to meet the extra cost.

The 1958 Christmas Seal Sale appeal raised £105 18s. 5d. The result of this annual appeal constitutes the Committee's chief source of income, and thanks are tendered once again to the many subscribing friends, local firms, schools and organisations for their interest and help in this appeal.

Mrs. G. S. Skelton is Chairman of the Committee, Mr. P. A. Warner and Miss J. S. Stearne of the Godalming Borough Health Department, are Honorary Secretary and Treasurer and Assistant Honorary Secretary respectively, and sincere thanks are due to them.

Chief Public Health 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)	1,243
Nuisances, Complaints, Advisory Visits, etc ...	861
Inspections of—	
Drainage to Houses, including Tests	186
Dairies, Milk Shops, and Milk Stores	91
Factories, Work-Places and Outworkers' Premises	138
Food Shops and places where Food is prepared and stored, including Ice Cream Premises ...	281
Food Inspection	67
Premises reference Provision of Dustbins ...	143
Public and Private Conveniences	29
Miscellaneous Inspections	290
Investigations and Inspections under—	
Shops and Young Persons Employment Acts ...	155
Petroleum Acts	192
Infectious Diseases (including Disinfections) ...	197
Part IV Housing Act, 1957 (Overcrowding) ...	2
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (including testing and treatment of sewers) ...	83
Smoke Observations	4
Water Supplies	58
Milk Samples	53
Water Samples	19
Ice Cream Samples	15
Cream Samples	6
Total ...	4,113

NOTICES SERVED.

Statutory Notices	...	...	1
Informal Notices	...	...	273
			<hr/>
Total	...	...	274
			<hr/>
Not complied with at 31.12.58			21
			<hr/>

Factories Acts, 1937—1948.

(Information required by the Ministry of Labour and
National Service.)

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

Premises.	Inspec- tions.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prose- cuted.
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	35	3	—
Factories without Mechanical Power	5	1	—
Other premises under the Act (in- cluding works of building and engineering construction, but not including outworkers' premises)	10	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	50	4	—
	<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)	1	1	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)				
Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	3	3	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 1	<hr/> —

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Public Supplies.

The Guildford, Godalming and District Water Board supplies water to the whole of the Borough area. No new sources of supply were brought into use and one of the wells at the Borough Road source is still being pumped to waste due to chemical pollution.

Frequent samples are taken from all sources of supply and from various points within the Borough and the Water Board's area. The samples show the water to have a very high standard of bacterial purity. The water is chlorinated to ensure a safe supply.

Private Supplies.

There are two private wells in the Borough still in use; one supplying a proportion of a school premise, the other a factory and a number of cottages. Samples show these supplies to be of a good bacterial standard.

Swimming Pools.

There are two swimming pools, both privately owned; one being an open air pool of 30,000 gallons to which the public are admitted, and the other an indoor pool of 86,000 gallons which is used by a number of schools in the area. The open air pool is operated on the fill-and-empty system; mains water is used together with continuous filtration and manual chlorination. The indoor pool is supplied by its own well and/or water from the town's mains, and the water is pre-heated, chlorinated and aerated and maintains a very high standard of purity.

Samples.

From private wells, reservoirs and supply systems 7 samples—5 satisfactory.
From Swimming Pools ... 12 samples—9 satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

New Drainage.

No new drainage works have been undertaken during the year under review.

Existing Drainage.

There were 186 visits, tests and inspections to drainage systems at all classes of premises; the defects found as a result were all remedied by informal action. Chokages reported and discovered on inspection were quickly dealt with, either by the Council as a recoverable works item or by the occupier or owner's own builder or contractor.

Sanitary Accommodation.

There are now 37 premises in the Borough not connected to the main sewer. With few exceptions it is impracticable to make a connection, and alternative means of sewage disposal are made as follows:—

4 chemical closets serving 4 houses.
2 pail closets serving 2 premises.
27 cesspools and septic tanks serving 31 premises.

During the year the chemical closets at Wyatts Oyspital were replaced by internal waterclosets connected to the Council's main sewer as part of an improvement scheme mentioned in the report under Improvement Grants. Pail Closets at Bowring's Recreation Ground were also replaced

by a small block of conveniences connected to the main sewer; an improvement much appreciated by local residents.

Most cesspools have been adapted for use as septic tanks, the effluent being disposed of by means of soakaways or sub-surface irrigation systems. Private contractors and the Council offer an emptying and de-sludging service at reasonable charges and little difficulty was experienced. Nuisances arising were quickly dealt with and suggested improvements and modifications to a number of installations were effected with satisfactory results.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

One case of pollution was reported during the year, and satisfactorily dealt with by informal action.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A weekly collection of house refuse and salvage is maintained with some difficulty to all premises in the Borough by means of standard refuse collection vehicles. Refuse is disposed of by means of controlling tipping at Broadwater. The tip is very well maintained and kept remarkably free from vermin.

Standard refuse bins are required at all premises and 48 informal notices have been served on Owner/Occupiers and Occupiers of premises to renew defective bins and in each case the required standard bin was installed. No formal notices were served.

SHOPS ACT.

Inspections made and observations kept in the Borough indicated the provisions of the Acts had been generally well observed. The usual complications arose at Christmas, and numerous visits were made to ensure compliance with the procedure for Assistants' Half Holidays. No formal action was found necessary.

PETROLEUM ACTS, 1928-1936.

Premises licenced annually for the storage of Petroleum Spirit and Petroleum Mixtures number 39. Two underground storage tanks, with hand-operated pumps were installed during the year.

The Town Council in February 1958 adopted the 'Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions' made by the Home Office under these Acts in 1957. These dealt mainly with the testing of all petrol tanks more than twenty years old, provision of warning notices and foam fire extinguishers.

Fifty-three tanks were tested in the prescribed manner and all proved satisfactory. The other Conditions mentioned were complied with in all cases. This work entailed 192 inspections to premises during 1958.

Further Conditions, requiring the flameproofing of all electrically-operated pumps and their connections are to be imposed under Licence as from the 1st January 1960, ample warning having been given to the Licensees concerned.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956.

Four complaints were received during the year concerning smoke nuisance. The persons responsible complied with the requirements of informal notices and abated the nuisance.

INSECT PESTS.

During the year 27 infestations of various pests were dealt with successfully by the use of suitable insecticides in liquid or powder form.

DISINFECTIONS.

Disinfections were carried out to two premises following the removal to hospital of infectious persons.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades carried on within the Borough.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The scheme for the destruction of rats and mice in the Borough continues to function very successfully and economically. Operated in accordance with Ministry instructions the scheme attracts a 50% grant.

One part-time Rodent Operator is employed, though the post was vacant for some six months of the year. A free service is given to infested private premises; business

premises are charged at the inclusive rate of 7/6 per hour, or alternatively are offered a Contract service giving monthly inspections as a minimum and carrying out all treatments as and when required. In the year under review twenty-four contracts produced a sum of £101 8s. 4d.

Both the general public and local traders are very co-operative in reporting infestations in the early stages, thereby considerably reducing the amount of work required and making control much easier. Co-operation was also evident in effecting essential works of rat-proofing, removal of harbourage, etc., and no formal action was necessary. Most infestations were of a minor character and the use of 'Warfarin' gave excellent results.

The Rodent Operator deals with Mole infestations at an inclusive charge of 7/6 per hour, treatments using Strychnine having proved very effective.

Sewers.

Except for one or two minor infestations dealt with in the early part of the year in conjunction with surface infestations, the soil sewers have been kept comparatively free from infestation and no treatments have been necessary.

NEW HOUSING.

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows:—

By the Council	...	...	...	12
By Private Persons	...	...	...	29
Number of houses converted into flats				4

The number of applicants on the Council's housing list totalled 301 at the 31st December, 1958, and during the year 66 applicants were re-housed. Applicants living in unfit or overcrowded houses, or suffering from tuberculosis or other circumstances prejudicial to health are referred to the Department for enquiry and report, and receive special consideration by the Housing Committee.

EXISTING HOUSING.

The slowing down of Council house building and the low allocation of houses caused a comparative reduction in the number of unfit houses which could be effectively dealt with during the year. Nevertheless, eight further houses were represented as unfit for human habitation and not repairable at reasonable expense.

It is fortunate that the 1955-1960 five year programme was well advanced before the slow down began and almost 75% of the unfit houses originally scheduled had been represented to the Council and dealt with in one way or another. Of those houses already dealt with fourteen families still await re-housing.

The position at 31st December, 1958, was as follows:—

Total number of houses to be dealt with	...	122
Demolished	...	19
Demolition pending	...	8
Closed and vacated	...	5
Closed but still occupied	...	1
Closed by Undertakings and vacated	...	16
Closed by Undertakings and still occupied	...	13
Houses reconditioned	...	62
No action taken	...	24
		36
		<hr/> 122

Improvement Grants.

It is a matter of concern to the Council and a surprise to many people that over 1,000 of the Borough's 4,887 houses are without bathrooms, indoor water-closets, hot water systems or proper foodstores.

With this fact and the acute shortage of housing accommodation generally in mind, the Council have encouraged Owners and Owner-occupiers to preserve and modernise their houses with the generous aid available under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act of 1958 in the form of Improvement Grants. The Grants usually amount to 50% of the cost of installing modern amenities between the limits of £100 and £800.

The present scheme is under review and it is expected that when amended it will ease the conditions attached to the acceptance of Improvement Grants, particularly in regard to the sale of Grant-aided properties. It is to be hoped that this further easing of Grant conditions will increase the number of applicants.

Schemes of improvement are in the main submitted by Owner-occupiers, though some tenanted properties have had good conversion schemes completed. The costs vary according to the type of work, but few exceed the top limit

of £800. An exception to this has been the scheme for Wyatt's Oyspital in Meadow, converting ten unfit almshouses into eight fit dwellings for aged single persons or married couples, costing £927 7s. 6d. per unit; a total of £7,427.

Since the commencement of the scheme 156 applications have been received seeking assistance under the scheme, and are classified as follows:—

Schemes completed	...	...	...	...	93
Works in progress at 31.12.58	...	...	...	...	13
Applications refused, or withdrawn	...	...	...	...	41
Applications approved, but work not commenced at 31.12.58...	...	...	...	...	9
					<hr/> 156

Inspection and Repair.

Some inspection and survey work was carried out in connection with the Clearance Programme and the Rent Acts. A further fifty-six houses were rendered fit during the year as a result of informal and formal action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts. There remains a considerable number of the old small cottages yet to be dealt with, by means of general repairs and if possible improvements with the aid of grants, or clearance in the next programme.

Rent Acts.

A further ten applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made during the year. Five certificates were issued and in the five other cases the Landlords undertook to carry out the necessary works. Subsequently three Certificates of Disrepair were revoked upon completion of the works specified. Opportunity was taken to inspect the houses under the Housing and Public Health Acts, and serve any necessary notices.

There has been comparatively little dispute between Landlord and Tenant considering the number of rent increases and the condition of the cottage property generally. Tenants in the main have continued to accept a far lower standard of repair than can be required under the Acts and this has the effect of continuing the poor standard of some of the tenanted properties. It is against the best interests of the country, the landlord, the tenant and the

house, because eventually the house will have to be put in good order and the longer this is delayed the more money it will cost in the end, and a proportion of the houses may well by that time be fit for demolition only.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

General.

The year has again seen a small advance in the general standard of hygiene in premises used for the storage, manufacture, preparation, handling and distribution of foods intended for human consumption.

The older type premises (and for that matter some of the employees) are still stumbling blocks in the way of all-round improvement and acceptance of higher standards. The problems in the premises can to some extent be overcome by major reconditioning schemes, but in many, space is severely limited and in some, major schemes are a practical impossibility.

Refrigeration and the use of pre-packed frozen foods is coming more and more into the picture. Two local firms prepare, price, pre-pack and freeze, meat and offals packs, marketing an attractive hygienic pack.

Food Inspection.

Detailed below is the list of foodstuffs inspected during the year and found to be unfit for human consumption. There has been a considerable increase in the amount of foods inspected due to the establishment of a large wholesale warehouse in the Borough. The frozen foods referred to in the list were surrendered as unfit, following the breakdown of refrigeration plant over a holiday period.

Perishable Goods:

Meat and Offal	113 lbs.
Fish	3 stones

Frozen Foods:

Miscellaneous	983 packets
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Tinned Goods:

Fruit	490 tins
Vegetables	163 tins
Meat	182 tins
Fish	117 tins
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	102 tins

Milk Supplies.

The Borough is within a 'specified area' for milk, and all milk sold in the area must be of special designation, i.e. Pasteurised, Tuberculin Tested or Sterilised Milks. All milk supplies in the Borough are designated milks, four Dairies being licensed for the sale of Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested Milks. Seven persons hold licences to sell Sterilised Milk, and two distributors hold licences to sell Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested Milks in the Borough from premises situated outside the area.

Routine inspection and sampling is carried out at all premises, and samples taken from distributors to ensure compliance with all the requirements. During the year fifty-three samples of milk were taken, and submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory at St. Luke's Hospital, Guildford. The Laboratory provides a free service for bacteriological and biological examinations for local authorities and is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health. Details of the samples taken during 1958 are as follows:—

Pasteurised Milk: 17 samples—all satisfactory.

Sterilised Milks: 3 samples—all satisfactory.

Tuberculin Tested Milk: 19 samples— 3 unsatisfactory.

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk: 14 samples—all satisfactory.

Ten of the Tuberculin Tested Milk samples were also submitted to a biological examination and no evidence of tubercle bacilli was found. Six samples of cream were submitted for analysis and three gave satisfactory results.

Ice Cream Premises (and Confectioners).

No ice cream is manufactured in the Borough and no 'loose' ice cream is sold except from proper premises. During the year fifteen samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination at the Guildford Public Health Laboratory and results were as follows:—

13 placed in Grade 1 (satisfactory).

1 placed in Grade 2.

1 placed in Grade 3.

All premises in the Borough used for the storage or sale of ice cream are registered and during the year no new registrations were granted. Premises must comply with the Acts and Regulations governing the sale of food and ice

cream, and inspections and visits were made to ensure that satisfactory conditions existed; no formal action was required.

Bakeries and Cake Shops.

Visits are made to the thirteen premises used primarily for the sale of bread, flour, cakes and sugar confectionery. Seven of these premises have their own bakehouses, all of which are above ground. Written and verbal notices served requiring improvements, cleansing, repairs and other works were generally well complied with.

A complete re-construction scheme for one of the old out-of-date bakeries, has been partially completed and has already improved general conditions.

Fish Shops.

There are eight fish shops in the Borough, four of these being Fried Fish Shops. All shops now have closed fronts and the premises are generally well maintained and little difficulty experienced.

Licensed Premises.

The twenty-four licensed premises in the Borough have satisfactory sanitary accommodation for persons frequenting the premises; all are supplied with adequate facilities for cleansing glasses, etc., and have a constant supply of hot water to sinks.

Restaurants, Cafes and Canteens.

Inspections have been made to the twenty-two premises classed under this heading, including school and factory canteens, to secure compliance with legislation governing such premises. Occupiers co-operated in maintaining a good standard and no statutory action was necessary.

Grocers, Greengrocers, etc.

There are forty-eight such premises at present in use. Inspections and advisory visits are made to promote cleanliness, to prevent forms of contamination and ensure that adequate washing facilities and hot water supplies are readily available for all persons employed. Foodstuffs inspected and found unfit for human consumption are listed elsewhere in this Report.

Meat Supplies.

All slaughterhouses within the Borough have remained closed since 1940, and no licences have been issued since the Borough joined a scheme whereby the bulk of the home-killed meat consumed in the area is supplied through the modern Abattoir at Guildford. The existing slaughterhouses are sited unsatisfactorily and their condition is such that it would be uneconomical to put them in good order sufficient to meet modern requirements. The present arrangements appear to be working quite satisfactorily.

The fourteen Butchers' shops in the Borough are all registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the manufacture of sausages, etc. All are inspected to detect contraventions of the various enactments, and for the inspection of meat and other products. Meat and offal found to be unfit for human consumption is listed under Food Inspection, and disposal is as described. The quantity of meat condemned as unfit is but a very small proportion of the amount consumed in the area.

Adulteration and Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

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

The County Medical Officer of Health reports that the following samples were taken in the Borough and analysed during 1958:—

Formal: Twenty-nine samples of Milk.

Informal: Three samples each of Ice Cream, Milk and Sausages, and one each of Chocolate Cake Mixture, Confectionery Flour, Flour, Jam, Pie Filling, Meat Pie, Salad Cream, Soft Drink, Wine, and Cod Liver Oil and Malt.

Two informal samples of Ice Cream were found to be adulterated or irregular, and one informal sample of Chocolate Cake Mixture and one of Sausages were found to be adulterated or irregular.

The Surrey County Council carried out the following sampling and analyses of food and drugs during 1958 in the whole of the County area for which they are the Food and Drugs Authority:—

Samples analysed—involving 73 items of food and drugs:

Formal	...	...	...	753
Informal	...	...	...	218

Found 'adulterated or irregular':

Formal	...	...	...	36
Informal	...	...	...	22

Legal proceedings in respect of one sample were instituted against a Dairy Farmer who pleaded 'Guilty' to selling Channel Islands Milk deficient in milk fat. He was given an absolute discharge and ordered to pay £3 3s. costs.

Legal proceedings were pending at the 31st December, 1958, in respect of a Formal sample of Bread taken.

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Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Surrey County Council Clinics are as follows:

At "Hillsleigh," Nightingale Road, Godalming.

Ante-Natal: Fridays, 11 a.m. to 12 noon (except during School Summer Holidays).

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

Child Guidance: Tuesdays, by appointment only.

Dental: Mondays, 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. 2nd Wednesdays a.m. 4th Tuesdays a.m. (by appointment only).

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

Relaxation and Mothercraft: Mondays, 2.30 p.m.

Speech Therapy: Thursdays, a.m. and p.m. (by appointment only).

Remedial Exercises: School children—Wednesdays a.m., (by appointment only).

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

Welfare Clinic: Every Wednesday, 2 to 4 p.m. (No Doctor on 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays).

Regional Hospital Board Clinics are as follows:

At Milford Chest Hospital, near Godalming.

Chest Clinic: 1st and 3rd Friday afternoons, 1.45 to 4.15 p.m. Other weeks a Clinic is held on Wednesday afternoons, 2.45 to 4 p.m. (by appointment).

At Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.

Venereal Diseases Clinic:

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

Females: Mondays, 3 to 7 p.m. Thursdays, 9.30 to 11 a.m.

