

[Report 1959] / Medical Officer of Health, Godalming Borough.

Contributors

Godalming (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1959

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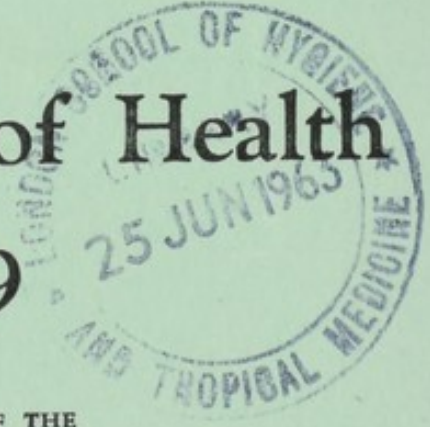
BOROUGH OF GODALMING



ANNUAL REPORT


OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health
for 1959**



TOGETHER WITH THAT OF THE

**Chief
Public Health Inspector**



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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for 1959.

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

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I present to you my Report on the state of the Public Health of the Borough for 1959. This year will probably for long remain in our memories on account of the unbroken spell of fine weather during the summer, coupled with an absence of severe winter weather. The benefits which such a summer confers on our population cannot be measured, but must be considerable both physically and mentally.

The work of the Public Health Department was largely of a routine nature, and fortunately the year was not marred by any serious infectious disease or factors likely to affect the health of the Townspeople unfavourably.

As regards Infectious Disease, 236 cases were notified, of which over three-quarters (188) were due to Measles; Measles tends to be more widespread in alternate years, and this was one of the years of greater frequency. Fortunately measles is not such a worrying disease for Parents and Doctors as it was before the days of modern drugs. Only two cases of Measles needed admission to Hospital.

Poliomyelitis was conspicuous by its absence in Godalming, but this should not be construed as a reason for not pushing ahead with the Poliomyelitis Vaccination cam-

paign; all are eligible up to their fortieth birthday, but not enough people in the older age groups are coming forward for vaccination, which has now been proved to be a weapon of value in the fight against the disease. Those vaccinated when the campaign started have been found to be three times less likely to contract paralytic poliomyelitis than the unvaccinated. Poliomyelitis vaccine was freely available during the year for those eligible; this included all born during or since 1933, and expectant mothers. Third (or booster) doses were begun during 1958.

The Death Rate for 1959 was 9.54 per 1,000 of the estimated population as against 10.03 for 1958, but changes of this nature are statistically insignificant when dealing with a small population such as that of Godalming.

The Infant Mortality Rate, which is the number of deaths of infants under the age of one year per 1,000 live births, shows a small fall from 13.33 to 12.09: once again this is far below the national figure for England and Wales of 22.0.

There were no Maternal Deaths and there have been none for five years; it is too much to hope that this wonderful state of affairs can go on for ever, but let us in the meantime pay a well deserved tribute to all those who have worked to reduce Maternal Mortality to its present low level.

The Guildford, Godalming and District Water Board did not bring any new sources of supply into use for Godalming during the year, but they commenced work on the new 12" diameter main from Guildford to Godalming, designed to bring water to Borough Road Pumping Station for use in the Godalming area. The Board are of course engaged in heavy commitments which are designed in general to improve their supply and distribution to their whole area; it may not be generally appreciated by the public that such works necessarily take time, from their very

nature, to come to fruition, especially when contracting difficulties are experienced.

The various aspects of Housing continue to form a large part of the work of the Health Department. The first five years programme for dealing with unfit houses continued to make progress but, even more than usual, progress was limited by the availability of new houses and the shortage of sites for the latter. There is no doubt that there is a real need for rehousing schemes in the centre of our towns, especially for the elderly, wherever the opportunity arises. Towns have for too long been gradually creeping outwards, taking population away from Churches, Shops, Entertainments, and often Schools, with consequent loss of social life and heavy expenditure on bus fares.

I hope this Report will prove of interest to those who have the health of the people of Godalming at heart, and while the report records nothing dramatic, it may be thought to give a fair idea of the Department's activities.

May I be allowed to express my sincere thanks to the Council, and to the Chairman and Members of the Housing and Public Health Committee, for all their help and interest which make our duties all the more pleasant. I would also like to thank Dr. Richards, Mr. Warner and all the other Members of the Health Department for their loyal support. As always, I appreciate the goodwill and help which my Department and I receive from our colleagues in other Departments.

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.

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 Society of Health
in Meat and other Foods Inspection.)

Clerk:

Miss J. S. STEARNE.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
BRIDGE STREET,
GODALMING.

Telephone Godalming 191.

Statistical and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area: 2,393 acres.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate, mid-year 1959):
15,850.

Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1959), according to
Rates Books): 4,909.

Rateable Value (latest figure available): £271,327.

Sum represented by a penny rate, estimated 1959/60:
£1,098.

Extracts from Vital Statistics

(Comparative of the years 1958 and 1959).

	1958			1959			England and Wales, 1959.
	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live Births ...	225	117	108	248	134	114	
Legitimate ...	212	108	104	236	129	107	
Illegitimate ...	13	9	4	12	5	7	
Illegitimate Live Births per cent. of Total Live Births	5.77			4.83			
Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 of Estimated Population ...	14.85			16.27			16.5
Still Births—							
Legitimate ...	4	2	2	2	2	—	
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Still Birth Rate, per 1,000 Live and Still Births ...	17.46			8.00			20.7
Total Live and Still Births ...	229			250			
Deaths ...	170	86	84	155	70	85	
Death Rate, per 1,000 of Estimated Population ...	10.03			9.09			11.6
Deaths of Infants under one year of age ...	3 *	2 *	1 *	3	1	2 †	
Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births	13.33			12.09			22.0
Legitimate ...	14.15			12.71			
Illegitimate ...	—			—			
Maternal Deaths (including Abortion)	—			—			
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births ...	—			—			

* All under four weeks

† Both under one week.

The Birth Rate showed an appreciable increase over 1958, being 16.26 per 1,000 of estimated population, and this is in line with the National Figure of 16.5.

The Death Rate is neither high nor low, and shows little variation from the National Figure of 11.6. There is certainly no evidence of any unfavourable factors operating in Godalming; deaths of females were slightly greater than for males, as is usual, though the women continue to live longer on average than the men.

Godalming Deaths in 1959.

Cause of Death					Total	Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis—Lungs	...	...	...	1	—	1
2.	Tuberculosis—Other	...	...	...	1	—	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases...				1	—	1
10.	Cancer—Stomach	...	...	...	—	—	—
11.	Cancer—Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	8	7	1
12.	Cancer—Breast	...	...	...	1	—	1
13.	Cancer—Uterus	...	...	...	1	—	1
14.	Cancer—Other sites	...	...	...	13	7	6
15.	Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	...	...	...	1	—	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—	—
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	19	5	14
18.	Coronary disease, Angina	...	...	...	36	20	16
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	5	1	4
20.	Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	13	4	9
21.	Other Circulatory disease	...	...	...	11	5	6
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	4	1	3
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	15	5	10
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	3	2	1
25.	Other diseases of Respiratory System...				2	1	1
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	1	1	0
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	...	...	...	1	—	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis...	...	...	...	1	1	0
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate...	...	...	...	1	1	0
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	3	2	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases...				7	3	4
33.	Motor Vehicle accidents...	...	...	...	—	—	—
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	5	3	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	1	0
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	—
Totals					155	70	85

105 out of the 155 deaths were of people over the age of 65 years, i.e. 68 per cent., which is a little lower than the three previous years, and may well be due to the fact that the weather was on the whole clement during the year.

Deaths of infants under one year of age numbered three, as in 1958: two of these children were born with defects which caused death, one ten minutes after birth and the other at eleven months: the third child died of an acute pulmonary infection at three days old.

The largest single cause of death continues to be Diseases of the Heart and Arteries, being 54 per cent. of all deaths, a figure a little above that of last year. Coronary Artery Disease accounts for most cases of Heart Failure, accounting for thirty-six deaths; it is commoner in men than women, and tends to occur earlier in the former, sometimes in the prime of life and, I have observed, not infrequently at about fifty-six.

Investigations into coronary artery disease in men indicate that it is a disease of civilisation, so-called, and mental stress and strain, lack of exercise, and over indulgence in food and drink all probably contribute to it, whereas regular exercise, hard physical work and a moderate diet keep coronary disease at bay.

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	...	...	...	...	5,216
Number of patients attended	...	...	...	...	5,293
Number of miles travelled	...	...	...	...	51,874
Voluntary hours of duty (including cinemas, fetes, etc., with ambulance)	...	...	...	...	10,492

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 1959 is as follows:—

	Cases.	Visits.
General Visits (excluding Tuberculosis)	411	4,772
Midwifery and Maternity	58	1,364
Tuberculosis	4	390
Ante-Natal and Post-Natal	58	385
	<hr/> 531	<hr/> 6,911

A slight increase from last year.

(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 185 were occupied daily throughout the year. 10,778 out-patients made 35,237 attendances, and in addition 20,834 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 the treatment of all forms of chest disease. It has a large Thoracic Surgical Unit.

The Hospital also provides Chest Clinic facilities for the areas of Godalming and Hambledon under the control of the Physician Superintendent and his staff. Clinics are held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays and alternate Wednesdays in each month. Transport is available from Milford Railway Station for the Friday Clinics only.

Appointments should be made through the Medical Secretary (Godalming 870).

(f) **Maternity and Nursing Homes.** There is only one registered Nursing Home in the Borough of Godalming, in the name of the Franciscan Sisters, Mount Alvernia, Godalming, with accommodation in 1959 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 following Table:—

	Cases Admitted to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	2
Impetigo	4
Measles	2
Salmonella Typhi-murium ...	4
Dysentery	1
Glandular Fever	1
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	1
	<hr/>
	15
	<hr/>

In general, the year was an average one so far as infectious diseases were concerned, with 236 cases notified (other than Tuberculosis), and 188 of these were cases of Measles. Only fifteen required admission to Hospital, and most of these were because of difficulties in nursing them at home rather than because the illness was serious.

A rather less rigid attitude is adopted nowadays with regard to some of the less serious infectious diseases than was formerly the case, and this applies to duration of exclusion of cases from work or school, exclusion of contacts, and terminal disinfection. But where serious diseases such as poliomyelitis, diphtheria, and smallpox are concerned, the control is at least as strict as before.

Poliomyelitis. I am indeed happy to report that no case of Poliomyelitis was notified in Godalming during 1959, and in spite of a hot summer, which in past years has favoured the spread of the disease, the country as a whole suffered little.

Children who have been vaccinated in this country have been shown to be three times less likely to suffer from paralytic poliomyelitis than the unvaccinated. Although good results have been achieved in getting children up to the age of eighteen years vaccinated, far too small a proportion of the population aged eighteen to twenty-six years (the maximum age eligible during 1959) have accepted vaccination.

It should not be thought that Poliomyelitis has been overcome, far from it; the disease may return in epidemic form any time, even in 1960, and it behoves all those eligible (now in 1960 up to the age of forty) to seek vaccination without delay. Research is going on into the efficiency and safety of a vaccine given by mouth; if proved satisfactory, this would simplify administration enormously.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis. The progress with vaccination against Poliomyelitis in the Godalming area

during the year ending 31st December, 1959, is as follows:

Children and young people who have received the 1st and 2nd injections—

Children born between 1943 and 1959	...	693
Young persons born between 1942 and 1933		1,279

Children and young people who have received 3rd booster injections—

Children born between 1943 and 1959	...	2,542
Young persons born between 1942 and 1933		396

A total of 3,370 children and young persons (or 67 per cent. of those eligible) have received the third injection in the Godalming areas since the inception of the scheme.

The general position so far as the whole Division is concerned is that 32,339 children and young persons received their third injection. This is slightly above 56 per cent. of the estimated population eligible for vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

Disease	Under 1												Totals
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over	
Measles	3	13	22	25	37	86	2	—	—	—	—	—	188
Food Poisoning	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	6
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	2	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	7
Erysipelas	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	2	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	1	12	6	—	2	—	1	—	23
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Enteritis (B.Coli Strain 026)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals	6	16	25	28	40	103	10	—	3	1	3	1	236

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 Day Nursery	Totals
Measles ...	35	—	1	22	22	17	1	8	106
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
*Glandular Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
*Mumps ...	1	1	1	1	—	9	—	—	13
*Impetigo ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
*Chicken pox ...	—	1	1	12	42	4	2	—	62
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
*German Measles	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
*Rheumatic Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
*Conjunctivitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Sonne Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	8
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	1	6
Totals ...	36	3	4	36	67	31	19	9	205

Whooping Cough Immunisation.

Age at Final Injection.	Primary Injection.	Re-inforcing Injection.
0-4 years ...	225	—
5-14 years ...	4	—
Totals ...	229	—

This Table shows little variation from the previous year.

Diphtheria Immunisation Statistics.

Age at 31st December, 1959	i.e., Born in Year	Number Immunised	Estimated mid-year Child Population, 1959	Number and Percentage Immunised
Under 1	1959	68	3202	2834
1—4	1958—1955	749		
5—9	1954—1950	967		
10—14	1949—1945	1050		
Totals, under 15		2834	3202	2834 (87.82%)

Cases of Diphtheria still continue to be reported from various parts of the British Isles, but fortunately there were again none in Godalming. During 1958, the last year for which figures have been published, there were eighty cases, with eight deaths, reported from twenty-five different districts. There were outbreaks in School-children in two cases in Greater London, not all that far from Godalming. As is always the case, the unimmunised fared worst: in fifty-five of the cases, immunisation had never been carried out or was not up to date; six of the eight deaths were in those not protected.

The immunisation statistics for Godalming show that the percentage immunised within fifteen years of birth continues to rise, being 84 per cent. in 1958, and 87 per cent. in 1959.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

This remains just as desirable as ever. During 1959, 101 infants under the age of one year were vaccinated, some by General Practitioners and some at the Clinics.

In view of the large number of protective inoculations given to babies, some authorities advise deferring vaccination until the second year of life. The present policy in the Surrey County Council's Clinics, however, remains the same, namely to vaccinate in the first three months of life, and get it done before embarking on the other procedures.

Vaccination in infancy not only protects the infant, but lessens the reaction if, in later life, vaccination is required on going abroad or entering the services. The presence of

eczema, or a history of it, is an absolute contra-indication to routine primary vaccination.

The following Table shows the vaccinations carried out in the Borough during 1959:—

0-1 yr.	1-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	15 and over.	Total.
111	73	9	15	208

There were also 45 re-vaccinations completed.

Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis is no longer the scourge it was, due to improved methods of prevention and treatment, and Chest Physicians, Chest Hospitals and Chest Clinics are now able to devote more of their time to other common chest complaints, particularly Bronchitis. The latter is more widespread in London and the industrial areas that it is in the country areas such as Godalming is, but nevertheless it is the cause of much absenteeism and chronic ill-health.

There were seventeen cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis added to the Godalming Register during 1959: this included eight transfers from other districts. There were three new Non-Pulmonary cases, two of these being transfers from other districts.

The following Table shows age groups of new cases and deaths of cases on the Register during 1959:—

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)2	2(*1)	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
30-35	... *1	2(*1)	—	—	...	—	—	—	—
35-45	(*1)3	*2	*1	—	...	†1	—	—	—
45-55	(*1)2	1	—	—	...	—	—	—	†1
55-65	...	—	—	—	...	—	1	—	—
65 and over	...	1	—	—	...	†1	—	—	—
Totals	9	8	2	1	...	2	1	—	1

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

Care and After-Care.

The Godalming and Haslemere Tuberculosis Care Committee continued its voluntary work during the year, helping deserving cases of chest disease in various ways. Eight Godalming and eleven Haslemere patients were assisted by grants totalling £87 17s. 10d.

The 1959 Christmas Seals Sale Appeal raised £105 9s. 7d. (as compared with £105 18s. 5d. in 1958/59), with the addition of a generous donation by the Charterhouse Offertory of £18 16s. 1d. The result is most satisfactory considering the "opposition" in the form of sixteen other Seals being sold throughout the country by equally deserving Organisations. The Committee is grateful once again for the financial support from patrons, local firms, schools, clubs, etc., which represents its main source of income.

Following the decision of The National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis (now the chest and Heart Association) in 1956, to extend its activities to include non-tuberculous chest diseases and diseases of the heart, and advising its affiliated societies to follow suit, the Standing Conference of Surrey Tuberculosis Care Committees decided in May 1959 to extend its care work to include non-tuberculous chest diseases, but to exclude cases of heart disease for the time being. Surrey Care Committees were invited to follow this lead and the Godalming and Haslemere Tuberculosis Care Committee did so the same month. By the end of 1959 all twenty Surrey Care Committees had extended their care work to include non-tuberculous diseases of the chest.

Mrs. G. Skelton is Chairman of the Committee, Mr. P. A. Warner and Miss J. S. Stearne of the Godalming Borough Health Department are Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and Assistant Hon. Secretary respectively. Mr. Aubrey Kendall, formerly Godalming Borough Treasurer, kindly acts as Honorary Auditor.

Chief Public Health Inspector's Report

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

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This being my thirty-ninth and final Annual Report I would like to preface it with a word of thanks to the Town Council for their interest and encouragement in my work, also for their generous expression of appreciation of my forty years service, and their good wishes for my retirement.

My special thanks are due to Alderman C. H. Gregory, the present Chairman of the Housing and Public Health Committee, also to Alderman B. J. Lasseter and Alderman N. M. Rothwell, past Chairmen of the former Health Committee, for their courtesy and co-operation during their terms of office.

To Dr. A. B. R. Finn, the Council's Medical Officer of Health, I owe my sincere thanks for his support and help at all times.

I shall take leave of my colleagues in the Health Department, Mr. C. R. Peskett, Additional Public Health Inspector since 1951 and now my successor, Miss J. S. Stearne, Chief Clerk, and Mr. C. E. Hall, Rodent Operator, with much regret, coupled with my grateful thanks for their loyal support and conscientious work in maintaining the efficiency of the Department.

In conclusion, my thanks go to the Council's Chief Officers, their Deputies and my other colleagues in Godalming Branch of N.A.L.G.O., for their friendship and help over the years, also for their generosity and good wishes.

I am, Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

P. A. WARNER,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

April 1960.

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)	1,346
Nuisances, Complaints, Advisory Visits, etc. ...	1,141
Inspections of—	
Drainage to Houses, including Tests	158
Dairies, Milk Shops, and Milk Stores	45
Factories, Work-places and Outworkers' Premises	49
Food Shops and Places where Food is prepared and stored, including Ice Cream Premises ...	320
Food Inspection	58
Premises reference Provision of Dustbins ...	86
Public and Private Conveniences	27
Investigations and Inspections under—	
Shops and Young Persons Employment Acts ...	125
Petroleum Acts	191
Infectious Diseases (including Disinfections) ...	397
Part IV Housing Act, 1957 (Overcrowding) ...	1
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (in- cluding testing and treatment of sewers) ...	28
Smoke Observations	3
Water Supplies	22
Milk Samples	43
Water Samples	19
Ice Cream Samples	14
Cream Samples	3
Total	4,076

NOTICES SERVED.

Statutory Notices	5
Informal Notices	232
Total	237
Informal Notices not complied with at 31.12.59	25

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.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with Mechanical Power ...	30	5	—
Factories without Mechanical Power	9	—	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction, but not including out-workers' premises)	9	2	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	48	7	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Premises.	Number of Defects		Referred by H.M. Inspector.	No. of Defects in respect of which Prosecutions were Instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)				
Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective	7	7	2	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7	7	2	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<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, operated on the fill-and-empty system with continuous filtration and manual chlorination, was not used during this year. The indoor pool is supplied by its own well and/or water from the town's mains; the water is pre-heated, chlorinated and aerated and maintains a very high standard of purity.

Samples.

From private wells, reservoirs and supply systems	15 samples—14 satisfactory.
From Swimming Pools	4 samples— 4 satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

New Drainage.

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

Existing Drainage.

There were 158 visits, inspections and tests to drainage systems during the year at various types of premises. The defects found were remedied mainly as a result of informal action. In three cases Statutory Notices were served under Section 24 of the Public Health Act 1936, and the necessary work carried out by the Council and the costs recovered from the Owners of the three houses concerned. One further case required a Statutory Notice under Section 39 of the Public Health Act 1936 to remedy defective and unsatisfactory drainage conditions.

Sanitary Accommodation.

With six exceptions all premises within the Borough have a water carriage system of drainage either by means of main sewers, cesspools or septic tank installations. The premises not connected to main sewers are either isolated or at such levels as to make sewer connections un-economical or impracticable. Temporary sanitary accommodation for building sites, engineering works and the like, is provided on the site by means of chemical or earth closets and latrines.

Inspections are made to all these premises to ensure public health requirements are met and schemes are in preparation for improving a number of the installations.

Most cesspools have been adapted for use as septic tanks, the effluent being disposed of by means of soakaways or sub-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 controlled tipping at Broadwater. The tip is very well maintained and kept remarkably free from vermin.

Standard refuse bins are required at all premises and 31 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, 1950.

The provisions of the Act were generally well observed by shopkeepers during the year, and no formal action required to be taken.

Certain minor irregularities in hours of closing observed during inspections were readily adjusted by the shopkeepers concerned.

PETROLEUM ACTS, 1928-1936.

There are 39 premises within the Borough licensed annually for storage of petroleum spirit and mixtures. No new installations were made during the year.

All electrically-operated pumps had to be flame-proofed before the 1st January, 1960, to comply with licence conditions. This work was done by competent electrical engineers employed by the Licensees, involving the modernising of certain pumps and renewal of others. In every case a certificate was furnished to the Council's Petroleum Officer that the requirements had been met. Some 47 pumps were involved.

This completes the work specified in the Home Office Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing Conditions as applied to petrol tanks and pumps, which the Town Council adopted in February 1958. All future installations will of course comply with these Conditions.

With the inception of the Model Code Conditions duties under these Acts have increased considerably, and the responsibilities become more onerous, both for the Licensing Authority and the Petroleum Officer.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

Three 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.

The Rodent Operator dealt with 160 infestations of various pests (other than rats or mice) during 1959, as follows:—

Bugs	...	...	7
Fleas	...	...	5
Woodworm	...	...	18*
Wasps	...	...	108
Other Insects	...	...	14
Moles	...	...	8

* Council Houses only.

With the exception of treatment for Moles (charged at an inclusive rate of 10/- per hour) this pest destruction service is operated as a free service to private houses; business premises are charged on a 'time and materials' basis, plus establishment charges. All these pests were successfully dealt with by the use of various insecticides and proved a service much appreciated by the public.

DISINFECTIONS.

Disinfections were carried out to seven 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.

One part-time Rodent Operator is employed. A free service is given to infested private premises; business pre-

mises are charged at the inclusive rate of 10/- per hour, or alternatively are offered a Contract service giving monthly inspections as a minimum and carrying out all treatment as and when required. In the year under review 27 Contracts produced a sum of £129 0s. 0d.

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.

Sewers.

The soil sewers have been kept comparatively free from infestation and no treatments have been necessary, except in conjunction with surface infestations.

NEW HOUSING.

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

By the Council	...	...	...	14
By Private Persons	...	...	...	47
Number of houses converted into Flats				3

The number of applicants on the Council's housing list totalled 354 at the 31st December, 1959, and during the year 50 applicants were re-housed. Applicants living in unfit or overcrowded houses, or suffering from tuberculosis or in other circumstances prejudicial to health are referred to the Department for enquiry and report, and receive special consideration by the Housing and Public Health Committee.

UNFIT HOUSES.

Little progress could be made in completing the Slum Clearance Programme; no houses were represented to the Council as being unfit for human habitation and no tenants were re-housed from houses already represented. With the slowing down of Council house building, it seems unlikely that the original programme will be completed by the end of next year.

Fortunately the programme was well in hand before the slow-down began and the position at the 31st December, 1959, was as follows:—

Demolition Procedure:					
Demolished	...	...	...	25	
Demolition Pending	...	...	...	13	
				<hr/>	38
Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	4
Undertakings:					
Vacated	...	...	...	8	
Occupied	...	...	...	5	
Re-conditioned	...	...	...	10	
				<hr/>	23
Repairs Action	...	...	...	...	21
No Action yet	...	...	...	...	6
For Repair Action	...	...	...	...	30
					<hr/>
					122
Additional to Programme	...	...	...	...	4
					<hr/>
					126
					<hr/>

Re-housing requirements at 31st December, 1959:—

15 Bungalows.
7 Houses.

Demolition Orders were made on twelve unfit cottages formerly the subject of an Undertaking under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Improvement Grants.

With approximately 25 per cent. of the dwelling houses in the Borough lacking Bathrooms, Hot Water Systems, Washhand Basins, Internal Waterclosets, and proper Food Stores, the Council have encouraged Owners and Owner/Occupiers to take advantage of the generous aid now available to help pay for the installation of these very necessary amenities.

Grant applications are mainly submitted by Owner-Occupiers, but some tenanted properties have been improved with Grant aid. The costs vary according to the degree and type of work necessary but few schemes exceed the maximum cost limit.

Grants have been available since 1949 and the application machinery and conditions have been simplified on a number of occasions to encourage applicants. In June of this year further alterations were made with the coming into force of the Housing and House Purchase Act of 1959.

There are now two schemes available, the Standard Grant scheme for installing the five basic amenities mentioned above. The Grants are specially intended to help equip houses with amenities as quickly and as easily as possible. They are for simple schemes requiring little structural work and the Grant, 50 per cent. of the cost of the work up to a maximum of £155, can be claimed as of right, provided the house is fit and has a useful life of fifteen years.

The second scheme continues, in a modified form, the original general Improvement Grants now termed Discretionary Grants. These Grants are intended for improvements covering a wider range and include conversions, adaptations, remedying certain inherent structural defects, etc., and up to 50 per cent. of the maximum of £800 can be given in Grant aid.

Improvement and Discretionary Grants.

Since the first application in 1953 the following Table shows applications dealt with:—

Works completed	...	...	...	106	
Works completed, but since withdrawn and repaid Grant	...	...	...	31	
				<hr/>	137
Applications refused	...	...	...	12	
Applications withdrawn	...	...	...	31	
				<hr/>	43
Works in progress	...	...	...	...	19
Applications approved, but not yet commenced					8
					<hr/>
					187
					<hr/>

Standard Grants.

Since June 1959 the following Table shows applications dealt with:—

Number of applications received	...	...	7
Number of applications approved	...	...	7
Works completed:	1,		

Inspection and Repair.

Some inspection and survey work was carried out in connection with the Clearance Programme, Improvement Grants and the Rent Acts. A further fifty-eight 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; some of them will have to be dealt with in 1960.

Rent Acts.

A further four applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made during the year. One Certificate of Disrepair was issued and in one case the Landlord undertook to carry out the necessary works. One Certificate of Disrepair was revoked during the year.

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 re-conditioning 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, 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.

Perishable Goods:

English and Imported Meat and Offal	402 lbs.
Fresh Fish	4 stones
Rolled Oats	245 lbs.

Tinned Goods:

Fruit	578 tins
Vegetables	221 tins
Meat	456 tins
Milk	43 tins
Fish	49 tins
Miscellaneous	36 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, four 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 forty-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 1959 are as follows:—

Pasteurised Milk: 17 samples—all satisfactory.

Sterilised Milk: 2 samples—both satisfactory.

Tuberculin Tested Milk: 19 samples—15 satisfactory,
4 unsatisfactory.

Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk: 5 samples—all satisfactory.

Four of the Tuberculin Tested Milk samples were also submitted to a biological examination and no evidence of tubercle bacilli was found. Three samples of cream were submitted for analysis and two 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 fourteen samples of ice cream were submitted to bacteriological examination at the Guildford Public Health Laboratory and results were as follows:—

- 10 placed in Grade 1 (satisfactory).
- 2 placed in Grade 2 (satisfactory).
- 1 placed in Grade 3.
- 1 placed in Grade 4.

All premises in the Borough used for the storage or sale of ice cream are registered and during the year seven 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 eleven 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.

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 in the Borough 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 reports that the following samples were taken in the Borough and analysed during 1959:—

Formal: Twenty-five samples of Milk.

Informal: Twelve samples of Milk, three of Infant Foods, two of Soft Drinks, and one each of Black-currant Juice, Breakfast Cereal, Christmas Pudding, Flavouring Essence, Food Colouring, Fruit in Syrup, Lemon Juice, Nutmeg Flavoured Compound, Tinned Raspberries, Rhubarb, Rum Butter, and Tomato Juice.

No samples were found to be adulterated or irregular.

The Surrey County Council carried out the following sampling and analyses of food and drugs during 1959 in the whole of the County area for which they are the Food and Drugs Authority:—

Samples analysed—involving 102 items of food and drugs:

Formal	...	...	...	749
Informal	...	...	...	217
Found 'adulterated or irregular':				
Formal	...	...	...	26
Informal	...	...	...	6

Legal proceedings in respect of one sample were instituted against a Dairy Farmer for selling Channel Islands Milk deficient in milk fat. On conviction he was fined £2, with £2 2s. 0d. costs.

Legal proceedings were instituted against a butcher provision merchant for selling chicken and veal pie as "chicken pie." On conviction he was fined £5, with £4 4s. 0d. costs.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Surrey County Council Clinics are as follows:

At "Hillsleigh," Nightingale Road, Godalming.

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, a.m. and p.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 or 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.

