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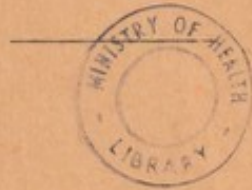
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**BOROUGH of GODMANCHESTER**



***ANNUAL REPORT***

**OF THE**

**MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH**

**AND**

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

**UPON THE**

**SANITARY CONDITIONS of the DISTRICT**

**DURING YEAR 1958**



T O T H E

G O D M A N C H E S T E R B O R O U G H C O U N C I L

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

The general health of the population remains very satisfactory as judged by an examination of the statistics for the year under review.

Compared with last year the Birth Rate shows a considerable rise and still stands well above the average for the country as a whole. There was a complete absence of stillbirth and infantile mortality during the year - a combination of facts which is a pleasing feature to note and a favourable reflection on the available Medical Services.

The Death Rate indicates a rather remarkable downward trend and I can find no record to indicate that the Death Rate in the Borough has ever stood at a lower level. Compared with last year, the rate has been more than halved and now stands at a point less than half the National figure.

So far as Infectious Disease is concerned 1958 has been characterised by the absence of any outbreak and the Borough remained almost free from Notifiable Infection throughout the year.

During the year the Sewage Disposal Works in Cow Lane was almost completed and treatment commenced on Godmanchester Sewage.

The outlying farms water scheme was completed and properties within the area are being connected.


Sixteen new Council dwellings were completed during the year and a substantial start made on the Council's Slum Clearance Programme.

In Conclusion, I would like to thank members of the Council for their kindness and consideration during the past year, and all officers for their kind help and consideration.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. Caldwell.



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S T A F F

Medical Officer of Health:

J. Caldwell, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector:

C.W. Parcell, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,956 acres
Estimated Population (mid 1957)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,480
Estimated Population (mid 1958)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,580
Number of Inhabited Houses (end 1958 per Rate Book)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	822
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£24,727
Value of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£86:0:10d

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	M.	F.	Total		
Legitimate	35	30	65	Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	27.1
Illegitimate	3	2	5	(Ditto for England and Wales)	16.4
<u>Total</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>70</u>		

<u>Still Births</u>					
Legitimate	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births (Ditto for England and Wales)	21.6
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
<u>Total</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		

<u>Deaths (all ages)</u>	6	9	15	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (Ditto for England and Wales)	5.8
					11.7

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</u>				M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	M.	F.	Total
Illegitimate	...	...	...	-	-	-
<u>Total</u>				<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

<u>Death Rates of Infants under 1 year</u>				
All infants per 1,000 live births (Ditto for England and Wales)	...	...	...	Nil
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	22.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil



CAUSES OF DEATH

(Registrar-General's List)

<u>List No.</u>	<u>Cause</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	-	-
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.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	-	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	4	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	-	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... ..	1	-
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	-	-
16.	Diabetes ... ..	-	-
17.	Vascular Lesions of the nervous system ... ..	1	4
18.	Coronary disease, angina ... ..	2	-
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	1	1
20.	Other heart disease ... ..	-	1
21.	Other circulatory disease ... ..	-	-
22.	Influenza ... ..	-	-
23.	Pneumonia ... ..	-	-
24.	Bronchitis ... ..	-	-
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	-	-
26.	Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum ... ..	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	-	-
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations ... ..	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	-	-
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	-	-
34.	All other accidents ... ..	-	1
35.	Suicide ... ..	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war ... ..	-	-
Total all causes		6	9

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Total cases notified

Scarlet Fever.....	1
Whooping Cough.....	1
Diphtheria.....	-
Measles.....	6
Acute Pneumonia.....	5
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	-
Typhoid Fever.....	-
Erysipelas.....	1
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	-
Infective Hepatitis.....	-





General Provision of Health Services for the Area

(a) Laboratory Facilities

The following Laboratory Facilities have been available to the Authority and to General Practitioners in the area:-

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road,  
Cambridge. Tel. Cambridge 55526

Public Analyst (S.Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.)  
Tennison Road, Cambridge. Tel. Cambridge 2097

(b) Ambulance Services

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service operating in conjunction with the County fire Service have been available on doctor's orders. (Tel.Huntingdon 348)

(c) HOME Nursing

A Nurse/Midwife residing in Godmanchester (Tel.Huntingdon 609) employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity cases in the Borough.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

(i) The following Health Services provided by the Huntingdon County Council were available:

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
<u>Minor Ailments</u>	Schoolchildren	Every Monday 9.30 - 10.30.a.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.
<u>Infant Welfare</u>	Children (0 - 5yrs)	Every Tuesday 2 - 4 p.m.	Ditto
<u>Dental</u>	Pre-school and School children. Pre-Natal and Nursing mothers	Every Tuesday and Thursday 9.a.m. - 12 noon 1.30 - 4.30 p.m. Every Saturday 9.a.m. - 12 noon	10a Princes Street Huntingdon
<u>Speech Therapy</u>	Schoolchildren	Every Friday 9.a.m. - 12 noon 1.30 - 5.p.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.

(ii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board:-

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
<u>Chest</u>	All ages	Every Thursday 10.a.m. - 12 noon	County Hospital, Huntingdon.



Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
<u>Venereal Diseases</u>	All cases	Mondays 3 - 7.p.m. Wednesdays 4-6.30.p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
	Males	Mondays 5.30- 7.p.m. Wednesdays	Out-patient Department, Memorial Hospital Peterborough.
	Females	5.30- 7.p.m.	
	Females	Tuesdays 10.30-12noon Thursdays 5.30-7.p.m.	
<u>Orthopaedic</u>	Preschool and Schoolchildren	Every Tuesday 10.a.m.- 12 noon (Surgeons by appointment)	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service:

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
<u>Ophthalmic</u>	Pre-school and Schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appointment except in emergency) 10.a.m. - 12 noon 2 - 3.p.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynaecological and Dental Out - Patient Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) Hospital Services

Fever - Cases of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment are admitted to Isolation Hospitals, at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely.

General Hospital Services are provided by the the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases - Maternity facilities are provided at Primrose Lane Maternity Hospital, Huntingdon and at Mill Road Hospital, Cambridge.



TUBERCULOSIS

Total No. on Register at 31st December, 1958... 11

Pulmonary ... 9                      Non-Pulmonary ... 2

New Cases - Diagnosed                      New Cases - Transferred

Age Periods.	New Cases - Diagnosed				New Cases - Transferred			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...								
1 ...								
5 ...								
10 ...								
15 ...	1							
20 ...								
25 ...						1		
35 ...				1				
45 ...								
55 ...								
65 and upwards								
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>			<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>		

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.



H O U S I N G

Slum Clearance

The 5 houses in the Pipers Lane - Earning street Clearance Area No.1. and 10 other individual houses were demolished during the year.

Negotiations to purchase the properties included in Pipers Lane Area No.2. proceeded and a Clearance Order in respect of Cambridge Street - St Anns Lane Clearance Area No.3. was made.

Fourteen cases of rehousing from unfit properties were dealt with .

Council Housing

4 houses, 4 one bedroom bungalows and 8 flats, being part of the 20 Dwellings, Cambridge Road 3rd Stage Development, were completed and the remaining 4 flats substantially so.

As the Council had decided to allocate 16 of the 20 properties for Slum Clearance purposes, the Housing List was closed for one year then the matter is to be reconsidered.

Private Housing

Work on a small number of private dwellings continued and three dwellings were completed during the year.

Improvements

Applications for Improvement Grants in respect of 14 dwellings were approved during the year and 6 were completed. A number of the applications were in respect of properties now provided with water from the Outlying Farms Scheme.

Tenders for the modernisation of 50 Council Houses were approved and 3 houses were modernised by the Council employees.

W A T E R   S U P P L Y

The daily consumption of water was maintained around 31 gallons per head per day in spite of the increased numbers of houses now provided with W.C's and baths. This was due to wastage from mains being reduced and to the wet summer which reduced the amount of water used on gardens etc.

The Outlying Farms Scheme has been completed and all occupied premises in the area are now supplied. The amount of water used at the moment is far less than the amount provided for, which means that the storage tank intended to provide for 24 hours in fact holds 4 days supply. This resulted in a series of unsatisfactory samples being obtained following which the tower was cleaned out and the mains system flushed with chlorine solution.

Samples were taken on the mains supply received in bulk from Huntingdon Borough Council to the town supply scheme and the supply received from St Neots Rural District Council for the Outlying Farm Scheme. All samples were sent for bacteriological analysis at the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory and the following results obtained:-

Town Supply 14 samples takwn..... 14 satisfactory  
Outlying Farms 26 samples taken. .. 13 satisfactory





## SEWERS AND SEWERAGE DISPOSAL

The bi-weekly collection of night soil has continued but the number of premises dependant upon this service has continued to get less as the Conversion of further properties to water carriage system has continued.

The Cow Lane Sewerage Disposal works came into partial operation and the White Hart pump station was completed, allowing the Syke's pump to be removed. The Syke's Pump has been converted to deisel operation for emergency use and has already proved useful when excavating for work on sewers and water mains.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The weekly collection of household refuse is made by tractor and trailer. The tractor is used one day weekly to level and cover the area tipped during the week. Controlled tipping is about to commence on the Cambridge Road tip. Tipping on the London Road continued throughout the year but difficulty has been experienced in preventing the firing of the tip. The rodent operator carried out two series of treatments on this tip during the year.

## STREET CLEANING

Approximately 3.5 miles of County and 2.25 miles of Borough roads are swept by 2 employees and street gullies are cleared as necessary by direct labour with the tumbler cart and scoops. Weed killer was again used on a number of paths but some trouble was experienced with the growth of weeds this year.

## RIVER

The usual river bathing took place when the weather was suitable. A sample taken from opposite the closed bathing place on 30th April gave the following result:-

Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days at 37°C	<u>Per 100mil</u> 600
Probable number of faecal coli " " " " "	80

In spite of the wet year and the general high water level flooding was again infrequent and not serious.

## CARAVAN SITES

The number of caravans in the district has remained constant in spite of the movement away of the Councils Sewerage staff. The unlicensed site in West street was closed during the year and the Planning Authority are in communication with the operator of the Riverside Site. Draft plans were received during the year for a site in London Road. A small number of individual caravans continue to be licensed.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

One Premises in the Borough continues to be used as a slaughterhouse with an average of 3 pigs per week slaughtered. This meat has not been inspected as owing to pressure of other work, little work has been done on food inspection and inspection of food premises.



4 samples of milk were taken and submitted for analysis under the Milk Regulations and found satisfactory. Two samples of ice cream sent for bacteriological examination were both placed in provisional grade.1.

G E N E R A L

It has been impossible for me to carry out all the duties laid down by Statute to the extent that I would like owing to the time taken up by my other duties. I have therefore concentrated my efforts on those matters that I consider most essential.

S U M M A R Y O F I N S P E C T I O N S

Public Health Act, 1936

(a)	Number of inspections made during the year including re-inspections	754
(b)	Number of notices served during the year	
1.	Informal	71
2.	Statutory	Nil
	Result of such notices	
1.	Informal notices complied with	71
	Informal notices served in 1957 complied with	23
2.	Statutory notices complied with	Nil
	Statutory notices served in 1957 complied with	47

Housing Acts, 1936 - 1958

(a)	Number of inspections made during the year (other than for Improvement Grants etc)	646
(b)	Number of notices served during the year	
1.	Informal	17
2.	Statutory	13
	Result of such notices	
1.	Informal notices complied with	17
2.	Statutory notices complied with	8
(c)	Houses in Clearance Areas.	
1.	Families rehoused	10
2.	Houses Demolished	6
(d)	Individual Houses in Clearance Areas	
1.	Families rehoused	4
2.	Houses demolished	10
3.	Houses closed	2



(e) Improvement Grants

1.	Number of inspections made in connection with improvement of properties	...	...	...	...	33
2.	Number of applications received for Improvement Grants					14
3.	Number of applications approved	...	...	...		14
4.	Number of applications not approved...	...	...	...		Nil
5.	Number of properties improved (work completed)	...				6

Rent Act 1957

(a)	Applications for Certificates of Disrepair	...	...			2
(b)	Decisions to issue Certificates of Disrepair	...	...			2
(c)	Undertakings accepted from landlord under Paragraph 5 of 1st Schedule...					2
(d)	Number of Certificates issued	...	...	....	...	Nil

Water Act, 1945

(a)	Number of Inspections made during the year	...	...			118
(b)	Number of notices served during the year					
1.	Informal	...	...	...	...	16
2.	Statutory	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Result of such notices					
1.	Informal notices complied with	...	...	...		16
2.	Statutory notices complied with	...	...	...		Nil

Food and Drugs Act and Food Hygiene Regulations

(a)	Number of inspections made during year	...	...			18
(b)	Action taken under Food Hygiene Regulations	...				Nil

Factories Act, 1937

(a)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority:-					
	Number on Register	...	...	...	...	5
	Inspections	...	...	...	...	5
	Notices	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Complied with	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b)	Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority:-					
	Number on Register	...	...	...	...	5
	Inspections	...	....	...	...	5
	Notices	...	...	...	...	Nil
	Complied with	...	...	...	...	Nil



(c) Number of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of cases of default in sending in list...	...							Nil
Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises...								Nil

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act

No. of properties inspected as a result of notification...								20
No. of properties inspected survey under Act	...	...						6
No. of properties inspected primarily for other purposes								600
No. of properties inspected infested with rats	...	...						31
No. of properties inspected infested with mice	...	...						2
No. of properties treated by Local Authority	...	...						33

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